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	VERBATIM	-
REC	ORD OF TRIA	L ²
(and	d accompanying papers)	
	of	
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MANNING, Bradley E.		PFC/E-3
(Name: Last, First, Middle Initial)	(Social Security Num	ber) (Rank)
Headquarters and Headquarters Company,		
Jnited States Army Garrison	U.S. Army	Fort Myer, VA 22211
(Unit/Command Name)	(Branch of Service)	
GENER	By COUI	RT-MARTIAL
Convened by	Commar	nder
	(Title of Conveni	ing Authority)
UNITED STATES ARM	Y MILITARY DISTRICT	OF WASHINGTON
(Unit/Co	ommand of Convening Authorit	y)
	Tried at	
Fort Meade, MD	on	see below (Date or Dates of Trial)

23 February 2012, 15-16 March 2012, 24-26 April 2012, 6-8 June 2012, 25 June 2012, 16-19 July 2012, 28-30 August 2012, 2 October 2012, 12 October 2012, 17-18 October 2012, 7-8 November 2012, 27 November - 2 December 2012, 5-7 December 2012, 10-11 December 2012, 8-9 January 2013, 16 January 2013, 26 February - 1 March 2013, 8 March 2013, 10 April 2013, 7-8 May 2013, 21 May 2013, 3-5 June 2013, 10-12 June 2013, 17-18 June 2013, 25-28 June 2013, 1-2 July 2013, 8-10 July 2013, 15 July 2013, 18-19 July 2013, 25-26 July 2013, 28 July - 2 August 2013, 5-9 August 2013, 12-14 August 2013, 16 August 2013, and 19-21 August 2013.

- 1 Insert "verbatim" or "summarized" as appropriate. (This form will be used by the Army and Navy for verbatim records of trial only.)
- 2 See inside back cover for instructions as to preparation and arrangement.

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3 Q.

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5 A.

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11 Q.

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13 A.

14 Q.

15 A.

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19 Q.

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21 A.

-	0	Thank you, sir. Sir, I'm going to look over my notes real
1	ν.	Thank you, Sir. Sir, I'm going to rook over my notes rear
2	quickly.	
3	A.	Certainly.
4	ADC[M	AJ HURLEY]: Sir, those are all the questions I have for
5	you.	
6	MJ:	Redirect?
7	ATC[C	PT MORROW]: No, Your Honor.
8	MJ:	Major General McKenzie, I just have a couple of questions.
9		EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL
10	Questions	by the military judge:
11	Q.	If these
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14	Α.	
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1 Q. Why

Q.

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4	Q.
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12	MJ:
13	ATC[CPT MORROW]:
14	ADC[MAJ HURLEY]:
15	MJ: Proceed.
16	RECROSS EXAMINATION
17	Questions by the assistant defense counsel [MAJ HURLEY]
18	Q.
19	
20	Α.
21	Q.
22	D.

1 Q.

2

- 3 A. That is my assessment as--speaking as the J5.
- 4 ADC[MAJ HURLEY]: Thank you, sir.
- 5 MJ: Temporary or permanent excusal?
- 6 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Temporary, Your Honor.
- 7 [The witness was duly warned, temporarily excused, and withdrew from
- 8 the courtroom.]
- 9 MJ: All right. Government?
- 10 TC[MAJ FEIN]: The United States does not intend to call any
- 11 further witnesses, so the government rests its sentencing case, Your
- 12 Honor.
- 13 MJ: All right. So, we have nothing else to do, today, other
- 14 than the administrative stuff where we'll be looking at exhibits that
- 15 we discussed earlier, is that correct?
- 16 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.
- 17 ATC[CPT MORROW]: One moment, Your Honor.
- 18 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, the only other issue, probably just for
- 19 the record, is we need notice from the defense on the damage
- 20 assessments at some point just so we can set up a facility. And
- 21 we'll work with the defense on it.
- 22 MJ: What type of notice do you need?

1	TC[MAJ FEIN]: Well, ma'am, there's two damage assessments in
2	question. Whether they intend to use them so we can have them ready
3	to go to be marked. And then the second part is one of the damage
4	assessments is
5	
6	
7	MJ: All right. Defense?
8	ADC[MAJ HURLEY]: Ma'am, we'll show up to the 802 on Monday
9	morning with our intent whether or not we want to use those damage
10	assessments.
11	MJ: Is that sufficient for the government?
12	TC[MAJ FEIN]: It is, ma'am. The onlythe government is fine
13	with whatever time the defense wants to use, it's just we need time,
14	too, in order to actually,
15	
16	MJ: Actually, looking atjustthis does trigger a question.
17	I don't know if either side knows, yet, the sentencing arguments that
18	you're both going to have, are they going to be referencing any
19	classified material or are you going to have any closed portion of
20	them?
21	CDC[MR.COOMBS]: The defense will not, Your Honor.

1	TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, at the present time, the United States
2	intends to have a solely open session. If, at most, a collateral
3	document similar to what happened in the merits phase
4	MJ: Okay. I'm just saying if there's some issue aboutyou
5	know, the only thing, at this point, thenif you what you're telling
6	me is accurate, is the
7	
8	TC[MAJ FEIN]: Well, ma'am
9	MJ: Or your preparation?
10	${\tt TC[MAJ\ FEIN]:}$ It's preparation and then deliberation.
11	ATC[CPT MORROW]: Your Honor, in orderif the defense wants to
12	offer the damage assessment into evidence, they need to allow the
13	accused to look at them first. That's part of the reason for T-
14	
15	
16	MJ: Okay, because I've already taken judicial notice of them
17	-
18	ATC[CPT MORROW]: Yeah, that
19	MJ:so its not a question of admissibility
20	ATC[CPT MORROW]:assuming
21	MJ:it's just whether you intend
22	ATC[CPT MORROW]: No, it's just a matter of offering
	SECRET

- 1 MJ: ----to use it, right?
- 2 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.
- 3 MJ: Okay.
- 4 TC[MAJ FEIN]: So it's the preparation piece and then the -- if
- 5 it's offered--or if it's actually admitted, it is provided to the
- 6 Court. So it's a few--just-it's logistics only, is the issue, ma'am.
- 7 MJ: So, do both sides believe that, over the course of the
- 8 weekend, you can figure this out such that it's not going to delay
- 9 proceedings next week?
- 10 CDC[MR.COOMBS]: That is correct, Your Honor.
- 11 ADC[MAJ HURLEY]: Yes, ma'am.
- 12 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.
- 13 MJ: Okay. Is there anything else we need to address now?
- 14 CDC[MR.COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 15 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am. For the 802, ma'am, the United States
- 16 has requested if we could provide Chief Ford and paralegals into that
- 17 802 in order to talk about the administration of the record.
- 18 MJ: Is it easier to do it in the courtroom where the exhibits
- 19 are, or is it--do you want to go into the deliberation room?
- 20 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Probably better in the deliberation room, ma'am,
- 21 because we're going to layout the classified exhibits and show it on

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- 1 the table. Probably everyone standing around the table would be
- 2 easier.
- 3 MJ: All right. How long of a recess do you need to do that?
- 4 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Probably 20 minutes, ma'am, so we can have it all
- 5 set up ahead of time.
- 6 MJ: All right. Court is in recess for 20 minutes.
- 7 [The court-martial recessed at 1608, 9 August 2013.]

1 [The court-martial was called to order at 0940, 12 August 2013.]

- MJ: Court is called to order.
- 3 Major Fein, please account for the parties.
- 4 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. All parties when the court last
- 5 recessed are again present with the following exception: Captain
- 6 Overgaard is absent, Captain von Elten is present. This is an open
- 7 session, unclassified in nature and the court security officer
- 8 completed his open hearing checklist and it will be filed with the
- 9 Post-Trial Appellate Papers.
- 10 Additionally, Your Honor, as of 0924 this morning there are
- 11 fifteen members of the media at the Media Operations Center, one
- 12 stenographer. There is no media in the courtroom, twenty nine
- 13 spectators in the courtroom and currently there are no spectators in
- 14 the overflow trailers, although it remains available.
- 15 MJ: All right. Thank you. Before we begin today the Court has
- 16 been advised that a video has been made as part of the prosecution's
- 17 closing argument on the merits -- as part of the prosecution's
- 18 closing argument on the merits. Once again, I remind you that under
- 19 R.C.M. 806(c) photography and broadcasting of the court proceedings
- 20 is prohibited. This includes photography, broadcasting, video and
- 21 audio recording, the taking of photographs and radio and television
- 22 broadcasts of the proceedings from the courtroom. The video was made
- 23 from the overflow trailer. This overflow trailer is an extension of

- 1 the courtroom. So the same rules apply as the violation of the
- 2 Court's rules came from the overflow trailer additional security
- 3 measures will be imposed for the overflow trailer only to ensure that
- 4 additional violations of the Court's rules do not occur. The
- 5 overwhelming majority of the media and spectators in this case have
- 6 behaved with the decorum befitting of a courtroom and with a respect
- 7 for the Court's rules. I thank you.
- 8 Government, what is the status of your case?
- 9 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Your Honor, on Friday the government rested its
- 10 sentencing case.
- 11 MJ: And that was during the closing ----
- 12 TC[MAJ FEIN]: It was ----
- 13 MJ: ---- portion.
- 14 TC[MAJ FEIN]: ---- Your Honor.
- 15 MJ: We have two motions that we have scheduled for oral
- 16 argument this morning. The first is judicial notice, however, the
- 17 Court received an e-mail over the weekend that the government did not
- 18 object to the defense motion for judicial notice of Appellate Exhibit
- 19 651; is that correct, Major Fein?
- 20 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. And that e-mail's been marked as
- 21 Appellate Exhibit 653.
- 22 MJ: So there's no additional need for oral argument with that
- 23 motion; is that correct?

- 1 ADC[CPT TOOMAN]: That's correct, Your Honor, and the defense
- 2 has changed out the attachments to that Appellate Exhibit so the
- 3 comments aren't in there anymore.
- 4 MJ: All right. Right now it's as an Appellate Exhibit. You
- 5 want me to consider it as a Defense Exhibit; is that correct?
- 6 ADC[CPT TOOMAN]: Yes, ma'am.
- 7 MJ: Do you want to remark it either as a Defense Exhibit?
- 8 That's probably the easiest way to save trees or make an additional
- 9 copy?
- 10 ADC[CPT TOOMAN]: Okay. I have an additional copy here, ma'am.
- 11 I'll give it to the court reporter.
- 12 MJ: Okay. And then they can go ahead and admit that now.
- 13 [There was a pause while the Defense Exhibits were admitted into
- 14 evidence.1
- 15 Are the exhibits ready for my initials?
- 16 ADC[CPT TOOMAN]: I think he's still working on that.
- 17 MJ: Okay. Thank you.
- 18 All right. This will be Defense Exhibit India-India-India
- 19 and Defense Exhibit Juliette-Juliette-Juliette and the Court will
- 20 take judicial notice of the existence of both of these.
- 21 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, based upon that the defense
- 22 would no longer call Colonel Larry.

- 1 MJ: We will have Colonel Larry then removed from the defense
- 2 witness list, and just for the record the articles are entitled,
- 3 "Exclusive: Taliban makes IEDs Deadlier." Dated September 15, 2009,
- 4 Washington Times, and "National Defense: Pentagon Still Playing
- 5 Catch Up with Bomb Makers," dated July 2011.
- 6 Major Fein, can you please account for the remainder of the
- 7 Appellate Exhibits?
- 8 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. Your Honor, Appellate Exhibit 652 is
- 9 the defense's response to Appellate Exhibit 645, the government's
- 10 motion for relief for concerning health records dated 10 August 2013.
- 11 Your Honor, Appellate Exhibit 654 Alpha and Bravo is the government's
- 12 response to the defense's objections under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4),
- 13 referencing the testimony of Major General McKenzie and Rear Admiral
- 14 Donegan. The -- similar to the previous filings the government
- 15 incorporated the defense's objections into this filing. Alpha's the
- 16 classified version. Bravo's the unclassified redacted version.
- 17 MJ: All right. Thank you. And for the record, counsel and I
- 18 met very briefly this morning for an R.C.M. 802 conference. That's a
- 19 conference where I talk with counsel about scheduling issues and
- 20 other logistic issues that may arise in the case and basically what
- 21 we just went through is what we discussed during the R.C.M. 802
- 22 conference. Next on the agenda is the argument over the government's
- 23 motion for -- to receive the long form of the R.C.M. 706 Board. Now

- 1 there were four things that the government wanted. Major Fein, are
- 2 all four of those issues still ripe?
- 3 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, some of them still are, unfortunately.
- 4 First, Your Honor, the United States requested specific disclosures
- 5 and any material Dr. Moulton relied upon. We have ----
- 6 MJ: What don't you have?
- 7 TC[MAJ FEIN]: I'm sorry, ma'am?
- 8 MJ: What don't you have?
- 9 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. Going off the list on page 3 of the
- 10 government's motion, Appellate Exhibit 645, we received from the
- 11 Defense Echo records from psych testing during the time of Joint
- 12 Regional Confinement Facility. We've not had a chance to verify that
- 13 with Captain, or excuse me, Commander Moulton whether that's complete
- 14 or not. Records and notes from any mitigation expert, interviews
- 15 with family and friends, similarly we have received that from the
- 16 defense, but we have not had an opportunity to confirm with Commander
- 17 Moulton whether that is everything he has in that category ----
- 18 MJ: Well let's -- before we get there, what in A through I have
- 19 you not have received from the defense?
- 20 TC[MAJ FEIN]: H, ma'am, we don't have any notes from Commander
- 21 Moulton.
- 22 MJ: All right. Mr. Coombs, what's the status of the notes?

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I don't know. I haven't received the notes
- 2 either. I talked to Commander Moulton, indicated that, you know,
- 3 whatever notes that he was using to form the basis of his opinion he
- 4 needs to provide to the government. So the defense will do that.
- 5 MJ: Is he bringing his entire file?
- 6 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I believe so, Your Honor.
- 7 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, we've asked him to bring everything
- 8 possible, that way there's no delay, based ----
- 9 MJ: When's he ----
- 10 TC[MAJ FEIN]: ---- on this litigation.
- 11 MJ: When is he coming?
- 12 TC[MAJ FEIN]: I think tomorrow night, ma'am
- 13 MJ: Is he supposed to be testifying on Wednesday; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.
- 17 TC[MAJ FEIN]: And we intend, ma'am, this afternoon to call him
- 18 again to say can you send whatever is missing from this list ahead of
- 19 time so there's no delay.
- 20 MJ: All right. Once again, I left Thursday and Friday open for
- 21 a reason. So we'll do what we can to make this work and make sure
- 22 everybody has the appropriate documentation.
- 23 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.

- 1 MJ: Okay. So we have some issues, but they aren't at this
- 2 point ripe for the Court's consideration?
- 3 TC[MAJ FEIN]: That's correct, ma'am.
- 4 MJ: Okay. And what about the long form, is what's at issue
- 5 today?
- 6 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am, it is. Also, ma'am, finally defense
- 7 sent an e-mail, we just wanted to confirm that there's no 914 issues
- 8 or 914 material included in e-mails also, because the defense has
- 9 contested whether they consider any information in e-mails even part
- 10 of R.C.M. 914, and the last e-mail didn't specifically state that.
- 11 MJ: All right. Mr. Coombs, assuming, without arguing, that e-
- 12 mails fall within the Jencks material under R.C.M. 914. Have you had
- 13 a chance to review your records and your e-mails between the defense
- 14 team and Dr. Moulton?
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, I have, Your Honor.
- MJ: Do any of them qualify as statements under R.C.M. 914?
- 17 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 18 MJ: All right.
- 19 TC[MAJ FEIN]: It's just that sentencing.
- 20 MJ: Government, it's your motion, are you ready to argue?
- 21 TC(MAJ FEIN): Yes, ma'am. Permission to brief from the desk.
- 22 MJ: That's fine.

- 1 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ultimately the United States contends that the
- 2 defense has put Private First Class Manning's mental condition at
- 3 issue under M.R.E. 302. The rule specifically states that if the
- 4 defense alleges a mental condition, it doesn't say necessarily for an
- 5 insanity defense on the merits. Specifically, even M.R.E. 302, the
- 6 new one, especially says, "Any derivative evidence obtained through
- 7 or use of such a statement from being received into evidence against
- 8 the accused on the issue of guilt or innocence or during sentencing
- 9 proceedings. It is clear here, Your Honor, the defense intends to
- 10 use alleged mental condition of PFC Manning in their sentencing case
- 11 and United States requests under Clark and R.C.M., or excuse me,
- 12 M.R.E. 302, that the long form report less PFC Manning's statements
- 13 that might be captured in the report be disclosed to the prosecution
- 14 so the prosecution can properly prepare its case to cross-examine
- 15 Commander Moulton and potentially a rebuttal case.
- 16 MJ: Is there any case law that the government is aware of that
- 17 deals with, in any shape or form, the release of the long form 706
- 18 Board where evidence of mental health has been raised during
- 19 sentencing, extenuation of mitigation?
- 20 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, the United States didn't find necessarily
- 21 a specific case that where mental health was only raised for
- 22 sentencing and only sentencing, but it is clear from multiple cases
- 23 including Clark itself that Appellate Courts have stated that the

- 1 issue is whether the defense raises a mental condition existing of
- 2 the accused at any point in the trial. So although there's not a
- 3 case directly on point for sentencing alone, the defense has alleged
- 4 through the exact proffer for Captain, or excuse me, Commander
- 5 Moulton that they intend to elicit evidence based off of PFC
- 6 Manning's mental condition.
- 7 MJ: Now the proffer that you have in your motion, where did
- 8 that come from?
- 9 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, that came from the defense's witness list,
- 10 exhibit -- Appellate Exhibit 344. It's verbatim. Defense used terms
- 11 such as, "Regressed stages of development," "Narcissistic personality
- 12 traits," I mean, they're using behavioral health specific terms
- 13 putting PFC Manning's mental condition at issue. So the government's
- 14 contending that the rules under M.R.E. 302, Clark, and 513 allow for
- 15 the government to be able to, since we don't have access to the
- 16 accused, that we have any documentation referencing his mental
- 17 health. Less the statements, because those are specifically
- 18 protected when it comes to the long form of the 706 available. So
- 19 the government's forensic psychiatrist expert if we so chose to use
- 20 him -- he or she will be able to access that and the government will
- 21 all be able to put on rebuttal case.
- 22 MJ: M.R.E. 513 would apply to statements made to Dr. Moulton,
- 23 but that wouldn't have anything to do with the 706 Board, would it?

- 1 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am. Well, other than 302 cross references
- 2 it, ma'am, but, no, the 706 we feel ----
- 3 MJ: But 30 -- M.R.E. 302 ----
- 4 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.
- 5 MJ: --- would be the guiding rule?
- 6 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. And Clark, that is the most recent
- 7 case to interpret that.
- 8 MJ: What is the language in -- Clark is not talking about the
- 9 sentencing, they're talking about the merits. What's the language
- 10 that you are relying on in Clark?
- 11 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. One moment please.
- 12 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 13 table.]
- Ma'am, the language that the United States is relying on --
- 15 the actual citation is I quess it's page 200 of the reporter. But
- 16 it's -- M.R.E. 302 is specifically drafted to allow the defense
- 17 control and an accused statements to Sanity Board would be released
- 18 to the prosecutors and presented to court martial. "If the defense
- 19 does not allege insanity at a court martial or does so only through
- 20 the lay testimony the Sanity Board will not be provided to the
- 21 prosecution, but if the defense offers expert testimony concerning
- 22 the mental condition of the accused," in quote citing 302, "The
- 23 military judge shall compel the defense to release to the prosecution

- 1 the full contents and other statements made by the accused to the
- 2 Sanity Board." Later on, Your Honor, "Clark court holds once the
- 3 defense offers expert testimony concerning accused's mental condition
- 4 302 Charlie allows the military judge to provide the government with
- 5 the Sanity Board report after redacting the accused's statements.
- 6 And that's exactly what happened here, Your Honor. The defense in
- 7 Clark put the mental condition of the accused at issue, not -- but
- 8 not using any doctors from the 706 and purposely did not show the 706
- 9 report to their mental health provider. And so the Court, the
- 10 Appellate Court in Clark held that the statements themselves within
- 11 the long form report should not be disclosed to the government, but
- 12 the government does get access to the long form report.
- 13 Seems directly on point in this case.
- 14 MJ: What is the government's position with respect to the
- 15 defense's contention that this only applies on the merits because
- 16 this is a merits case too.
- 17 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Ma'am, there's no case law that supports that
- 18 proposition. The rule 302, as I stated a minute ago, is pretty
- 19 clear, just at the beginning. M.R.E. 302, the general rule, it
- 20 doesn't delineate between a merits, insanity defense or not. The
- 21 defense is relying on the analysis to interpret that but actually it
- 22 was the history of 302. The rule itself on its face doesn't
- 23 distinguish the difference between an issue of quilt, which would be

- 1 insanity, or sentencing proceedings. 302 itself is very clear.
- 2 Either one of those with or separating them.
- 3 MJ: Does the government believe M.R.E. 302 -- it's a privilege
- 4 concerning mental examination of the accused? Is this a privilege
- 5 for the long form and the statements or just the statements.
- 6 TC[MAJ FEIN]: I'm sorry, could you repeat that question?
- 7 MJ: Is this a privilege to prevent release of the long form of
- 8 the R.C.M. 706 Board or just the statements or both?
- 9 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Well, ma'am, ultimately the privilege of the
- 10 statements, because it's a privilege and it allows an accused to get
- 11 mental health and be able to feel free to get that support which
- 12 should be protected but ultimately 706 read with 302 does incorporate
- 13 the actual report itself and distinguishes between the short and long
- 14 form. But the key here, Your Honor, is it's the defense is the
- 15 gatekeeper and if they -- if the defense raises a mental health
- 16 condition, they open the door and it's their decision whether to do
- 17 that or not. And that's where 302(b)(1), the exception says, "There
- 18 is no privilege when the accused person introduces into evidence such
- 19 statements or derivative evidence." It doesn't say on the merits.
- 20 It doesn't say on sentencing. It says on evidence. It doesn't
- 21 distinguish.
- 22 MJ: All right. Thank you.
- 23 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am.

- 1 MJ: Defense?
- 2 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. Your Honor, first, I think
- 3 it's helpful to look at the overall purpose of the M.R.E. 302 and
- 4 706. Especially when you're considering them together. 302 is
- 5 designed to essentially put the government on the equal footing with
- 6 the defense when the defense offers any sort of defense that would go
- 7 towards a mens rea element in the merits, that's how the defense
- 8 looks at 302 and ----
- 9 MJ: Then why doesn't the rule say that?
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Well, when you look at the discussion, I mean,
- 11 it's just the drafters within the rule didn't spell that out, but
- 12 when you look at the discussion it's clear that that's what the rule
- 13 was designed to do. It was designed to balance the competing
- 14 interests between an accused being able to put up a defense, an
- 15 insanity defense, that went towards a mens rea element. And you
- 16 could put -- it wouldn't have to be insanity, it could be anything
- 17 that attacks the mens rea element on the merits. Once the defense
- 18 does that, then the government should be entitled to a long form
- 19 report at the very least and potentially the ones with the statements
- 20 as well, in order to be put on equal footing.
- 21 MJ: Why wouldn't that same proposition apply in sentencing?
- 22 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: It would if the -- well, two things. If the
- 23 expert for the defense was considering the 706 report in sentencing

- 1 and that was the primary basis for his or her opinion, then there
- 2 would be an argument for that. Although, still even in that instance
- ${f 3}$ the rule seems to be more interested in the merits portion and the
- 4 underlying basis for that is the government has the burden of proof
- ${\bf 5}$ $\,$ in the merits and if the defense is offering something that would
- 6 attack an element of one of the charges then the government really
- 7 should be put on equal footing to have access to that. That same
- 8 argument would not apply in sentencing.
- 9 MJ: Why not?
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Because in sentencing you're dealing with --
- 11 and this is how it's being offered in this instance not as a mental
- 12 health defense and not the in any way to lessen PFC Manning's
- 13 decisions on why he did what he did, but instead to explain the
- 14 context, the circumstances surrounding it. So doc -- Captain, or
- 15 excuse me, Commander Moulton will talk about the stressors that PFC
- 16 Manning was under during the deployment.
- 17 MJ: Let me stop you there. Do you agree with -- the government
- 18 proffer of this testimony in their motion? Do you agree with that
- 19 proffer, that that's what Dr. Moulton is going testify about?
- 20 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor.
- 21 MJ: Do you agree -- do believe that that is evidence concerning
- 22 a mental condition of PFC Manning, one or more?

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. And when you look at --
- 2 again, if you look at 302 and 706 and you consider them together, the
- 3 706 report an accused can be forced to take -- undergo a 706 Board.
- 4 So if the government's theory were correct that any time you offer
- 5 any sort of evidence in mitigation or extenuation, and it could be
- 6 something as simple as somebody having an eating disorder or
- 7 alcoholism or a gambling addiction, anything along that lines, if
- 8 there was a 706 report you offer something like that in sentencing
- 9 that is totally unrelated to whether or not the individual has the
- 10 capacity to stand trial. Now the government gets access to the 706
- 11 report, and it's, you know, the long form report. Any time you offer
- 12 something like that in sentencing. That can't be the case when you
- 13 consider an accused, as I said, can be forced to undergo 706 Board by
- 14 the military judge, by the government, by the investigating officer,
- 15 and then you would be in a position where if you were forced to
- 16 undergo a 706 Board, and this is why the privilege applies to
- 17 everything because the results in the board and the statements are
- 18 based upon the interaction with the accused. So the ultimate
- 19 opinions by the board members, their testing, is based upon the
- 20 responses they get from the accused. So an accused now is forced to
- 21 cooperate with the 706 Board and then if he offers anything or she
- 22 offers anything in sentencing, again, totally unrelated to capacity

- 1 issue, now under the government's argument you would have full access
- 2 to long form 706 Board.
- 3 MJ: Well following that with the long form 706 Board is
- 4 addressing the same issues that the defense is bringing up in
- 5 extenuation of mitigation.
- 6 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: There would be a better tie in argument if, in
- 7 fact, the defense -- well, two -- in two instances. If the defense's
- 8 expert was relying upon the 706 Board, then you have perhaps a
- 9 fairness argument. The government has their expert in court today
- 10 watching the proceedings. If my expert was, in fact, relying upon
- 11 the 706 Board and that was a major factor in his opinion, well, you
- 12 would have a fairness argument that their expert should be entitled
- 13 to the same information. And that's really what goes towards the
- 14 government's first request of, we want the entire basis of your
- 15 expert's opinion. They're going to have it. So they are placed at
- 16 equal footing. So this is not an issue where the government is
- 17 operating under a deficiency. Second, the -- in sentencing, as in
- 18 this case, the evidence of the gender identity issues, the evidence
- 19 of the stressors that he was undergoing, is being offered in
- 20 mitigation and extenuation to explain the circumstances surrounding
- 21 the offense. It's not being offered to lessen the responsibility,
- 22 not being offered, obviously ----
- 23 MJ: Well if it's in extenuation or mitigation it kind of is.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: It's mostly to explain to the Court what was
- 2 going on, and to the extent that that is something that the Court
- 3 takes into account and maybe lessens the punishment, yes; but it is
- 4 to provide context and circumstances as to what was going on during
- 5 that time period. But it's not in a way to take away responsibility
- 6 for the offense and that's really what 302 and 706, when you read
- 7 them together, is designed to address and that's why the rule
- 8 specifically states and even in Harris the, no excuse me, not Harris,
- 9 but in Clark, the case the government cited, they referenced the fact
- 10 that if the defense does not raise an insanity defense the government
- 11 does not get access to the report.
- MJ: Where does it say that?
- 13 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: It's within the passage of what they cite, the
- 14 government cited as well. I'll find that in a second, Your Honor.
- MJ: If you're looking at Page 7, at least of what I have, are
- 16 you're talking about the line, "Once the defense offers expert
- 17 testimony concerning an accused's mental condition M.R.E. 302 allows
- 18 the military judge to provide the government with Sanity Board after
- 19 redacting the accused's statements?"
- 20 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor. Hold on one second and I'll
- 21 find the quote. I believe -- and I'll find the exact passage of
- 22 where it is in the Clark opinion, but 302(c), which the Clark opinion
- 23 cited, it states, "If the accused fails to present an insanity

- 1 defense or does so only through lay testimony, for example, a trial
- 2 counsel will not receive access to the report." That passage within
- 3 the 302(c) discussion, the analysis, if -- you can't read that and
- 4 have that reconcile with the idea that anytime you put any mental
- 5 health information that they get access to the long form report.
- 6 MJ: Why not?
- 7 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Because the -- you wouldn't say, "If the
- 8 defense doesn't offer an insanity defense in this case or does so
- 9 only through lay testimony the government doesn't get access to the
- 10 report." There would be no reason to state that. Instead, what you
- 11 would say is, "If the accused doesn't offer any sort of mental health
- 12 information or testimony the government will not get access to it."
- 13 Again, the -- I think if -- well defense believes if you follow the
- 14 government's reading of the rule then any time a 706 Board is done
- 15 the defense would know that if we offer any sort of mental health
- 16 testimony, whether or not that's -- I don't believe the government is
- 17 limiting it to just expert testimony, but if somebody gets on the
- 18 stand and says, "You know what, I saw -- you know ----
- 19 MJ: I thought there was a specific exception for lay testimony?
- 20 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: In this instance the exception is both lay
- 21 testimony and for insanity defense, but under the government's
- 22 argument if you offer any sort of mental health, if you put that in
- 23 issue during sentencing they get access to the full report.

- 1 MJ: Well R.C.M. 70 -- the rule itself says, "It's expert
- 2 testimony."
- 3 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Correct, Your Honor. But the government's
- 4 argument is not limited to that, and the rule itself says, or at
- 5 least the discussion says, "If you fail to present an insanity
- ${\bf 6}$ $\,$ defense they don't get access to it." So the defense believes when
- 7 you look at it in its entirety the government's not put at a
- 8 deficiency. Our expert's not considering the report and hasn't
- 9 considered the report. There is no reason for the government to get
- 10 access to the full report. It is a fishing expedition to get access
- 11 to the full report. What we're offering in sentencing is not an
- 12 attack on any mens rea element of the offense and there is no case
- 13 that would support the government's position that they should have
- 14 access in sentencing.
- 15 MJ: Is the defense aware of any case which addresses this rule
- 16 and the giving of a long form in a sentencing case?
- 17 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: There -- I believe, Your Honor, there is a
- 18 unreported Air Force case that talked about giving a long report in
- 19 sentencing. I don't know the facts of the case, but I believe ----
- 20 MJ: Do you know the name of the case?
- 21 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I can get that, Your Honor. I bel ----
- 22 MJ: Thank you. Well, do you know of any case where a military
- 23 judge has been reversed for giving the -- for requiring the defense

- 1 to give the long form for the government when they introduce mental
- 2 health evidence in sentencing?
- 3 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 4 MJ: Okay. If you have that case, the Court would appreciate
- 5 the name of it.
- 6 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor, I'll find the case.
- 7 MJ: Thank you. All right. The Court's going to take this
- 8 issue under advisement. Understanding that the witness is coming
- 9 tomorrow, this will be the first order of business for the Court. So
- 10 you'll have a ruling hopefully by the end of the day.
- 11 Is there anything else we need to address before we proceed
- 12 to the beginning of the defense case?
- 13 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: We may just need 10 minute recess to ensure
- 14 that the first witness is here. But other than that, nothing from
- 15 the defense, Your Honor.
- 16 TC[MAJ FEIN]: I'm sorry, ma'am. I didn't get a chance to tell
- 17 Mr. Coombs, he is here and ready to go.
- 18 MJ: All right. Do you want to take a 10 minute recess anyway
- 19 or are you ready to go?
- 20 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Ready to go, Your Honor.
- 21 MJ: Let's go.
- 22 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: The defense calls Colonel David Miller.

- 1 COLONEL DAVID MILLER, U.S. Army, was recalled as a witness for the
- 2 defense, reminded of his previous oath, and testified as follows:
- 3 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 5 Q. Sir, I want to start off by asking you a few questions
- 6 about the brigade's guidance regarding selecting those members who
- 7 would or would not deploy?
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. Sir, approximately 60 days prior to the deployment your
- 10 unit conducted a SRC, a Special Reporting Code scrub; is that
- 11 correct?
- 12 A. Soldier's readiness, yeah.
- 13 Q. And can you explain for the Court what that is?
- 14 A. So the scrub actually is not a one-day event. It's
- 15 something that's done continuously. So not just for deployments, but
- 16 on a recurring basis. For example, my unit now at Fort Riley, units
- 17 required to do Soldier readiness reviews of their deployment
- 18 readiness status. So everything from your medical status, to your
- 19 DEERs being up to date, your -- all of those things are required to
- 20 be squared away and properly taken care of before you deploy are done
- 21 and there's a checklist that goes with that.
- Q. And why would you do that 60 days out?

- A. Well, 60 days -- 90 days, 60 days out you're looking at the
- 2 roster very hard to make sure you know who can and can't deploy. So
- 3 you've got an accurate read on what your deployable strength is going
- 4 to be and how many folks you're going to have with your rear
- 5 detachment.
- 6 Q. And what guidance did you give to your brigade regarding
- 7 selecting those members who would not deploy?
- 8 A. Well the first guidance is standard Army guidance, so let's
- 9 just start with the readiness checklist. And that says, "If a
- 10 Soldier's got a physical profile," for example, "And they can't wear
- 11 a body armor then on the first screening they're not deployable. If
- 12 they've got a medical condition that can't be treated in theater of
- 13 if they have some kind of medication," for example, "That couldn't be
- 14 administered underneath the conditions in the particular place you're
- 15 going, than that person may not be deployable." So the guidance I
- 16 gave is we would scrub our rosters very closely to ensure that we had
- 17 very accurate data down to the individual on who is and is not
- 18 deployable by those standards. And then there's a screening criteria
- 19 of based on where we're going, what we know we're going to do, even
- 20 though they don't meet that checklist who could deploy and perform
- 21 some kind function within the limits of their constraint is. And so
- 22 ----
- 23 O. And ----

- 1 A. --- we just wanted to make sure we had that as very, very,
- 2 accurate to make sure that we were taking all availables downrange
- 3 and for those who couldn't they were going to get the proper
- 4 attention for whatever the reason was that they were not deployed.
- 5 Q. What was your required strength level to deploy?
- 6 A. So there's not a required strength level. The goal is to
- 7 deploy, at that time, the goal was to deploy with 90 percent of
- 8 assigned strength.
- 9 Q. And do you recall if you have any units that were close to
- 10 not making that goal of 90 percent?
- 11 A. No, not really. The whole purpose of the scrub is to have
- 12 that read. So we were -- that's why I said it wasn't just a 60 days
- 13 out in looking, we've been loo -- we started looking at that -- you
- 14 look -- every month the Army -- every brig -- every unit in the Army
- 15 submits a unit status report. And on that unit status report, you
- 16 report every month of every year what your current non-deployable
- 17 are. So it's not an unknown thing for any unit. What you're looking
- 18 at closely is, how can you get that reduced. So for example,
- 19 Soldiers that are being separated from the Army for chapters, for
- 20 adverse actions, and that kind thing are on that non-deployable list.
- 21 One of goals to look at that list very closely and do what you can do
- 22 to expedite their separation from the Army before you deploy so the
- 23 rear detachment is not left with that task and those additional

- 1 folks. So we were looking at the goal all along, but I don't think
- 2 we were ever in a position where we were at a fear of not making our
- 3 90 percent.
- 4 Q. And as part of that scrub and looking at that, did you have
- 5 members of your brigade brief you on non-deployables?
- 6 A. Yeah, we met. I met with my Brigade [SIC] Commanders
- 7 initially, you know, several months out. Monthly we started looking
- 8 at it pretty close, and that came down within the last 60 days
- 9 probably looking at it, probably twice a month where I meet with my
- 10 Battalion Commanders and their Sergeant Majors and review their
- 11 rosters and ensure that they were tracking, you know, closely their
- 12 status and making the Commander's decisions on who they thought
- 13 should or shouldn't deploy and that we had the right read on how much
- 14 support we were going to need to get medical things taken care of
- 15 and/or the separations that I mentioned already.
- 16 O. And you talked about trying to ensure that list was reduced
- 17 as quickly as possible before the deployment so you didn't have a
- 18 large rear detachment.
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. Was there any pressure put on the unit to reduce the non-
- 21 deployable list?
- 22 A. Two things, sir. I didn't say that we do as quickly as
- 23 possible. I just said that we were managing all along. That's why

- 1 to refrain from being into a panic mode at the last days going out,
- 2 that's why you look at it all the time. So I wouldn't categorize it
- 3 as quickly. I would categorize it as efficiently as possible. But,
- 4 no, I didn't -- I wouldn't call it pressure. I would call it
- 5 responsible guidance from the command, Army wide, to do what we
- 6 should be doing, which is take every able Soldier downrange and be
- 7 good stewards of America's resources. In this particular case, the
- 8 most important resource which is our human Soldiers. So there the
- 9 intent is, take as many of the folks as you possibly can, but that
- 10 makes sense because that's what we do.
- 11 Q. Did your brigade S-2 section have a shortage of
- 12 intelligence analysts?
- 13 A. Yeah. Army wide and even now there's a general shortage of
- 14 intel officers and analysts.
- 15 O. Simply though your brigade did you have a shortage of
- 16 junior intelligence analysts?
- 17 A. I think we did.
- 18 Q. And can you tell me what you recall about that?
- 19 A. Well, so analysts -- there's the standard table of
- 20 organization and equipment requirements for analysts, okay? In
- 21 common terms, we fight, you can always use more. So we built company
- 22 intel teams which is a common technique across the Army even now.
- 23 Those slots aren't authorized analysts but that's a good place for

- 1 them to be to get the most intelligence out of a competent insurgency
- 2 which is the bottom up feed of information. So we had a shortage of
- 3 intel analysts and we put the analysts in the most important slots
- 4 available, and that was true for intel officers as well, but we had
- 5 our requisite share as compared to any other brigade that was going
- 6 downrange.
- 7 Q. So if I understand your testimony, you didn't have a
- 8 shortage from an intel standpoint of the numbers that you were
- 9 authorized, but you did have a shortage, maybe, in what you would
- 10 have desired?
- 11 A. No. I think we had some shortage. Something below 100
- 12 percent in the intel fill. I don't remember the exact number, but
- 13 I'm going to guess this swag of probably something like -- somewhere
- 14 between 85 and 90 percent fill. That's a pure guess.
- 15 O. Now, from your perspective was there any pressure placed on
- 16 the brigade S-2 section to take Soldiers with them that should not
- 17 deploy?
- 18 A. No. From my perspective there wasn't any pressure on
- 19 anybody to take a Soldier who shouldn't deploy downrange.
- 20 Q. Prior to the deployment, did the brigade S-2 section ever
- 21 raise an issues concerning whether or not PFC Manning should deploy?
- 22 A. Not to me, not to my knowledge.
- Q. Prior to the deployment Major Clausen was your Brigade S-2?

- 1 A Yes.
- Q. And you had an opportunity to view his duty performance?
- A. I did.
- 4 O. And what type of duty performer was Major Clausen?
- 5 A. From my perspective he was a average Major in his overall
- 6 performance. He was less than average on his ability to conduct a
- 7 technical aspect of his job which, most important to me, was
- 8 providing analyzed intelligence in a manner that was usable to the
- 9 Maneuver Commanders.
- 10 Q. From your perspective, was Major Clausen a strong leader?
- 11 A. Not particularly strong, but I would also say not
- 12 particularly weak either from my vantage point.
- 13 O. Did you know, from your perspective, how Major Clausen
- 14 supervised and managed the personnel in the S-2 section?
- 15 A. I didn't have the ability on a daily basis of that.
- 16 O. Who was the Brigade S-2 NCOIC prior to deployment?
- 17 A Sergeant Adkins.
- 18 O. At any time did anyone within your brigade complain or
- 19 alert you to a complaint that Major Clausen abdicated his
- 20 responsibilities to supervise S-2 personnel to Master Sergeant ----
- 21 MJ: Hold on. Yes?
- 22 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: ---- Adkins?
- 23 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Objection, Your Honor, calls for hearsay.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Let me finish the question, please, and I'll
- 2 just finish the question then I'll respond.
- 3 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 4 Q. So, at any time did anyone within your brigade complain or
- 5 alert to you a complaint that Major Clausen abdicated his responsible
- 6 to supervise all S-2 personnel to Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 7 MJ: Before you answer let me ----
- 8 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: My response, ma'am, is not offered for the
- 9 truth of the matter asserted, but the effect on the listener.
- 10 MJ: All right. Government?
- 11 ATC[CPT MORROW]: We'll withdraw the objection.
- 12 MJ: Proceed. Overruled.
- 13 WIT: No.
- 14 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 15 O. Were you ever made aware whether or not at any point
- 16 afterwards that Major Clausen abdicated his responsibility to
- 17 supervise S-2 personnel to Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 O. That was never raised to you at any point during the 15-6
- 20 investigation?
- 21 A. Not that I recall.
- 22 O. Did there come a time when you removed Major Clausen from
- 23 his duties as the S-2?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And when was this?
- 3 A. I don't remember the exact dates, but I'm thinking it was
- 4 January/February time frame, if I recall.
- 5 Q. Of 2010?
- 6 A. Right.
- 7 Q. So during the deployment?
- 8 A. Right.
- 9 Q. Was it unusual for you to remove a key brigade staff member
- 10 during a deployment?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Had you given thought to removing Major Clausen prior to
- 13 the deployment?
- 14 A. Yeah. In the aspect that those kind of things usually
- 15 aren't something that you just wake up and decide to do. So I had
- 16 been working with him on his ability to perform those skills I
- 17 described earlier and was not making much progress and I was
- 18 concerned about the impact that was going to have operationally on
- 19 our ability to carry out our mission.
- 20 Q. And why did you choose to remove him in the
- 21 January/February time frame during the deployment?
- 22 A. The elections were approaching. We were working on
- 23 building capacity with our Iraqi counterparts, intelligence and

- 1 analysts a critical part of that and he still wasn't providing that
- 2 kind of analysis that we needed for the Commanders on the ground from
- 3 a operational standpoint and to train our Iraqi partners.
- 4 Q. Who did you replace him with?
- 5 A. Captain Steve Lim.
- 6 Q. Was it common to replace or, excuse me, was it common to
- 7 have a Captain as your Brigade S-2?
- 8 A. Not particularly. We mentioned the intel officer
- 9 shortages. So it wasn't unheard of to have a Captain filling a
- 10 Major's job or a Lieutenant filling a Captain. In fact, in my
- 11 battalions I had all Lieutenants filling Captains, intelligence
- 12 officers at the battalion level analogous positions to the Brigade
- 13 S-2.
- 14 Q. Why didn't you select another Major to replace Major
- 15 Clausen?
- 16 A. Two reasons. The Division Commander had offered some
- 17 Majors from his staff to replace our Brigade S-2 when I moved Clausen
- 18 out. My assessment of those Majors were they are all okay. I didn't
- 19 see any particular shining star that was going to come in and make
- 20 things magically great overnight. And they didn't have the knowledge
- 21 of our area of operations the way somebody from the inside was.
- 22 Captain Lim who had done been in the brigade for some time. He had
- 23 been a Battalion S-2 on a previous deployment. He had proven

- 1 leadership skills as Company Commander and he had proven ability to
- 2 translate intelligence into terms that Maneuver Commanders could
- 3 understand, both from his previous deployment where he had performed
- 4 very well and my observations of him working as the Military
- 5 Intelligence Company Commander and providing direct assistance to the
- 6 brigade S-2 shop. So I couldn't think of a better available fit than
- 7 Steve Lim.
- 8 O. And was it your determination that January/February was
- 9 when you needed to replace Major Clausen with a Captain?
- 10 A. Yeah. I had consulted with some other people about this.
- 11 The Assistant Division Commander, who had direct oversight of our
- 12 area of operations, and some other folks and in consultation with him
- 13 and some others, I determined that rather than drag this on it was
- 14 better to make a call now and that would -- to delay any longer,
- 15 while I can't predict the future, would potentially be even more
- 16 adverse than it had been. So that was the best time. And the
- 17 elections were approaching so it was a good time to make sure we had
- 18 things going in the right direction.
- 19 Q. And did you also, sir, have an opportunity to review the
- 20 duty performance of Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 21 A. Not really, not on a regular basis.

- 1 Q. Based upon your limited ability to see him and what was
- 2 reported to you, did you form an opinion as to what type of duty
- 3 performer Master Sergeant Adkins was?
- 4 A. Not really.
- 5 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Objection. Lack of personal knowledge or
- 6 ability to testify that he didn't have the ability to form an opinion
- 7 on whether or not or ----
- 8 MJ: Well, he's just testified that he hasn't formed an opinion.
- 9 Are we going any further down this road?
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. I have his sworn statement.
- 11 So I can confirm with his sworn statement where he had an opinion.
- 12 MJ: All right, Overruled. Go ahead.
- 13 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 14 O. Sir, I'm handing you what's been marked as Defense Exhibit
- 15 Kilo-Kilo-Kilo for Identification.
- 16 A. Uh, huh.
- 17 O. If you would, sir, just take a look at that.
- 18 [The witness did as directed.]
- A. Okav.
- 20 O. Sir, is that your sworn statement?
- 21 A. It is.
- Q. And when did you give this sworn statement?

- 1 A. I gave it to Lieutenant General Caslen after we returned
- 2 from deployment and the invest -- Army's investigation into
- 3 circumstances surrounding the incident were being looked into.
- 4 Q. And, sir, if you would turn to Page 3 of the statement?
- 5 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 6 Q. Do you see a section called, "Intelligence Section?"
- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And do you see a section number two, "Master Sergeant
- 9 Adkins' Performance as a NCO?"
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Sir, during that time period did you have an opinion that
- 12 he was a marginal duty performer?
- A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And that he wasn't quite bad enough to relieve or be
- 15 replaced?
- 16 A. Yes. So that statement I made in the context of my
- 17 interview with General Caslen and where it came from and where my
- 18 information in that comment came from was from my Command Sergeant
- 19 Major who had also been in the brigade for quite some time. He had
- 20 been the Battalion Command Sergeant Major for our brigade support
- 21 BSTB Battalion. He had been the command Sergeant Major for 431
- 22 Infantry, one of our maneuver battalions. And at that time he had
- 23 just moved up to being the Brigade Command Sergeant Major after we

- 1 redeployed. And when he came up to the brigade he saw Master
- 2 Sergeant Adkins who used to be in one of his battalions before and he
- 3 had made -- he a comment that he was surprised to see him working at
- 4 the brigade because he thought that he was a marginal performer. And
- 5 so my comment to General Caslen was based on my translating to him
- 6 what I had gotten from the Command Sergeant Major Jones.
- 7 Q. So from -- if I understand you correctly then you did not
- 8 form -- you had no opinion as to the brigade NCOIC or the S-2 $\,$
- 9 section?
- 10 A. Not directly. I trust my current Sergeant Major. So I was
- 11 conveying what my Command Sergeant Major's views were to ----
- MJ: Can I interrupt you for just a second? What is his name?
- 13 WIT: The Sergeant Major?
- 14 MJ: Yes.
- 15 WIT: Command Sergeant Major Benjamin Jones.
- 16 MJ: Thank you.
- 17 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 18 Q. So again, and it's important that here today we get your
- 19 opinion and not something that's necessarily relayed to you by
- 20 somebody else.
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 O. So prior, I guess to speaking ----
- 23 A. So I would say, just to get -- I think I know what ----

- 1 Q. Well, sir ----
- 2 A. I think I know what -- go ahead.
- 3 Q. ---- if you would. Prior to speaking with Command Sergeant
- 4 Major, did you have an opinion regarding your brigade S-2 section's
- 5 NCOIC?
- 6 A. I didn't have any strong opinion. Just on my casual
- 7 observations I would say he was a mediocre noncommissioned officer.
- 8 Would be my general view.
- 9 Q. Retrieving Defense Exhibit Kilo-Kilo-Kilo for
- 10 Identification from the witness. And, sir, at any time did anyone
- 11 complain to you or through your brigade staff about Master Sergeant
- 12 Adkins' leadership skills?
- MJ: Yes? Hold on just a moment.
- 14 WIT: Not that I recall ----
- MJ: Just a moment please. Yes?
- 16 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Government would object to this line of
- 17 questioning as improper under Article 404.
- 18 M.T. M.R.E. 404?
- 19 ATC[CPT MORROW]: 404. Character evidence, I mean, related to
- 20 Master Sergeant Adkins or Sergeant First Class Adkins.
- 21 MJ: Mr. Coombs, just briefly, if you would what's -- where are
- 22 you going with this testimony?

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. Not character evidence under
- 2 404, but this line of questioning and other line of questioning from
- 3 other witnesses is extenuation and mitigation evidence. The
- 4 defense's position on that is it explains the circumstances
- 5 surrounding how the offense happened within the S-2 section.
- 6 MJ: All right. I'm going to overrule it. Go ahead.
- 7 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 8 Q. So again, I'll go back to my question. At any time did
- 9 anyone within your brigade staff complain to you about Master
- 10 Sergeant Adkins' leadership?
- 11 A. Not that I recall.
- 12 Q. At any time did anyone in your command ever make a
- 13 recommendation to remove Master Sergeant Adkins from his duty
- 14 position?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. So roughly how many Soldiers deployed as part of your
- 17 brigade?
- 18 A. About 4,000.
- 19 Q. And during the deployment did you track how many command
- 20 directed mental health evaluations you had in your brigade?
- 21 A. I didn't track by total tally, but I did track in general
- 22 when Soldiers were getting command directed. I think we had about 24
- 23 or 25.

- 1 Q. Do you recall reporting that number within your sworn
- 2 statement?
- A. I think I did.
- 4 Q. And so based upon what you just said, am I correct that you
- 5 had roughly 24 command directed mental health evaluations the during
- 6 the deployment?
- 7 A. Yeah. I think we had about 300 overall behavioral health
- 8 referrals and of those about 24 were command directed.
- 9 Q. And were those command directed mental health evaluations
- 10 briefed to you?
- 11 A. The results of the evaluations?
- 12 Q. Just the fact that they were done, was that one of your
- 13 Commanders' critical information reporting requirements?
- 14 A. Yes. I mean, the fact when it was command directed I would
- 15 get told this -- a Soldier was command directed for behavioral
- 16 health, not the results of what came out of the analysis.
- 17 O. And who was the release authority from theater, if you're
- 18 going to redeploy somebody?
- 19 A. So, I think I was for those events. I was trying to recall
- 20 whether or not we had to send those for a Division for a hack, but I
- 21 -- if it had a Division hack I never got any of them denied or
- 22 questioned by anybody at Division.

- 1 Q. Sir, during the deployment did you approve of any release
- 2 from theater requests for mental health reasons?
- A. I believe I did.
- 4 O. Do you recall ----
- 5 A. I can't recall the specific ones.
- 6 Q. Do you recall reporting that in your sworn statement?
- 7 A. Of the twenty -- we had a number. I don't recall what the
- 8 number was.
- 9 Q. If I showed you your sworn statement would that help
- 10 refresh your memory?
- 11 A. Sure. I'm going to guess probably about six or seven.
- 12 Q. I'm handing the witness Defense Exhibit Kilo-Kilo-Kilo for
- 13 Identification. Sir, if you would just look at that yourself. I
- 14 believe if you look to Page 3. Once you're done looking at that just
- 15 look up at me, I'll retrieve it and then I'll ask my question again.
- 16 [The witness did as directed.]
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 O. I'm retrieving from the witness Defense Exhibit Kilo-Kilo-
- 19 Kilo for Identification. Sir, does that refresh your memory?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q. And, sir, roughly how many -- well actually, how many
- 22 approvals did you have for release from theater due to mental health
- 23 issues?

- A. Sixteen.
- 2 Q. Did you put out any guidance regarding what types of
- 3 requests that would you approve or disapprove when it came to mental
- 4 health issues?
- 5 A. No. I think that would be very inappropriate.
- 6 O. How did individuals in your command know to -- when to
- 7 request a release from theater due to mental health issues?
- 8 A. Usually on medical recommendation from the doctor.
- 9 Q. And to your memory, sir, was that all of the 16 that you
- 10 had were the doctor recommended?
- 11 A If they were behavioral health, it had to have a doctor's
- 12 recommendation.
- Q. Did you have any instances in which just the command
- 14 supported the return of the Soldier, the redeployment of the Soldier?
- 15 A. So I recall of a case, and there may have been a few
- 16 others, that were not mental health related. They may have been
- 17 traumatic events in somebody's life, for example. One comes to mind
- 18 that I can get specific on if you want me to. But ----
- 19 O. That's fine, sir.
- 20 A. --- that particular family situation for compassionate
- 21 reasons the command decided it was best to allow that Soldier to stay
- 22 home and deal with the circumstances that their family was dealing

- 1 with and there was no medical piece to that individual Soldier's
- 2 situation.
- 3 Q. Sir, if the immediate command of a Soldier believed that a
- 4 Soldier should be returned home due to either being risk to harm
- 5 himself or others, would this be something that you would likely
- 6 approve or would you require something more than the command's
- 7 recommendation?
- 8 A. It would still have to have a medical piece that and what
- 9 the doctors were thinking about it.
- 10 Q. If you have a disagreement between the command and the
- 11 doctor do you know right now how would you decide that or would it be
- 12 case by case?
- 13 A. It would have to be case by case. Hypotheticals in this --
- 14 in that situation they're pretty dangerous.
- 15 O. I quess you wouldn't have a hard fast rule?
- 16 A. I don't think you can. It kind of like having rules for
- 17 adjudicating UCMJ. That's not --
- 18 Q. Yes, sir.
- 19 A. Okay.
- Q. Are you familiar with what a DEROG is?
- 21 A Yes.
- Q. And how are you familiar with that, sir?

- A. It's a standard process for the military, particularly the
- 2 military police, and in particular for tracking completion of
- 3 incidents that are reported a lot of reports and might result in
- 4 adverse actions.
- 5 O. And what is a DEROG -- based upon your understanding when
- 6 is a DEROG initiated against somebody with a security clearance?
- 7 A. If, well it's not necessarily with someone with a security
- 8 clearance or not, that's really not relevant to a DEROG being
- 9 initiated. If an incident occurs that might result in an adverse
- 10 action, say for example, someone gets a DUI or is charged underneath
- 11 UCMJ Article 15 or Summary Court-Martial, that kind of thing, then a
- 12 DEROG would be initiated.
- 13 Q. And maybe I'll just back up slightly. What is your
- 14 understanding of the purpose of a DEROG and who it goes to?
- 15 A. My understanding, the purpose of a DEROG is to confirm the
- 16 completion or -- and document that the command has followed through
- 17 on a particular incident that resulted in a DEROG being initiated in
- 18 the first place.
- 19 O. Sir. do you still have Defense Exhibit Kilo-Kilo-Kilo for
- 20 Identification?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Handing this to you again. If you would, sir, turn to Page
- 23 4 of Defense Exhibit Kilo-Kilo-Kilo for Identification?

- A. Okay.
- 2 Q. With regards to a DEROG, that has to go through the unit
- 3 security manager?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And, sir, is that dealing with a Soldier's security
- 6 clearance?
- 7 A. It does, among other things, yes.
- 8 O. And what is your understanding of that?
- 9 A. So when the DEROG is going through, if I understand your
- 10 question right, one of the checks on it is checking the Soldier's
- 11 security clearance and determining if action should be taken on that
- 12 clearance based on whatever incident occurred.
- 13 Q. Do you know, sir, who is responsible for initiating a
- 14 DEROG?
- 15 A. The Commander.
- 16 O. Is that -- which level of command, sir?
- 17 A. Company level.
- 18 O. And who was PFC Manning's Company Commander in December of
- 19 2009, do you recall?
- 20 A. I think it was Captain Dreher at that time. It was either
- 21 Captain Dreher or Captain Fulton.
- Q. And with regards to Dreher was he ever a Major during the
- 23 time of his Company Command?

- A. Yes, I believe he was.
- 2 Q. And from your in memory what type of Commander was Major
- 3 Dreher?
- 4 A. He was a pretty good commander. He was pretty even keel,
- 5 pretty level headed commander in general.
- 6 Q. Was Major Dreher ever relieved of his command during the
- 7 deployment?
- A. He was.
- 9 Q. And when was that, sir?
- 10 A. Again, I don't know the exact time frame, but that's when I
- 11 sent Captain Fulton in to replace him. I'm going to say probably
- 12 December/January time frame, I'm guessing.
- 13 Q. Of 2010?
- 14 A. Right.
- 15 Q. And, sir, you said Captain Fulton, does Captain Matthew
- 16 Freeburg sound right?
- 17 A. I'm sorry, Freeburg. I'm getting another officer confused
- 18 with Freeburg.
- 19 Q. Yes, sir.
- 20 A. Captain Freeburg. Thank you.
- 21 Q. No problem, sir. So at the time that Major Dreher was
- 22 relieved, was it your opinion that he was making good decisions?

- 1 A. I can't speak to all of the decisions he made. He was
- 2 relieved because he was untruthful about property accountability
- 3 reports that he was making.
- 4 Q. Are you aware of whether or not Major Dreher ordered a
- 5 command directed mental health evaluation of PFC Manning in December
- 6 of 2009?
- A. I don't recall that one. I recall there was one in May,
- 8 I'm sorry, I think there was a referral somewhere in that time frame.
- 9 Q. Were you ever briefed on any incident involving PFC Manning
- 10 in December of 2009?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. And I'm just going -- to ensure that you're not aware of
- 13 it, I'm going to ask you if these facts jog your memory at all.
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 O. Were you ever informed of an incident in which PFC Manning
- 16 flipped a table during a counseling session?
- 17 A. No, not until after the redeployment and all of this trial
- 18 proceedings occurred. I've heard about it in the past months.
- 19 Q. All right. Sir, so I want to go ahead and make sure I
- 20 understand the dividing. So at the time of the deployment you were
- 21 not aware of an incident in which ----
- 22 A. No.
- 23 O. ---- PFC Manning flipped a table?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. After the -- when did you find out about that incident?
- 3 A. It was after -- sometime after the General Caslen's
- 4 investigation had been initiated. So after August of 2011 and
- 5 sometime during the time period of that investigation was going on.
- 6 Q. Do you think based upon what you found out about in it
- 7 August of 2011 that this should be an issue that was addressed to you
- 8 in December of 2009?
- 9 A. Not necessarily.
- 10 Q. And why not, sir?
- 11 A. Well, in context I mean a Soldier flipping a table's isn't
- 12 the kind of thing that would he rise to the Brigade Commander's
- 13 level. Probably something that would be handled by a squad leader.
- 14 Q. Were you ever informed in August of 2011 that another
- 15 Soldier had to restrain PFC Manning from apparently grabbing a weapon
- 16 during a counseling session?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. You're not aware of that fact?
- 19 A. Not exactly. There were a number of stories that were told
- 20 to me about different things Manning had done. That exact one I
- 21 don't remember it specifically, but ----
- Q. So going back to what you said, would normally not rise to
- 23 your level a table flipping incident. If it also involved grabbing a

- 1 weapon during a counseling session, would that rise to your level as
- 2 a Brigade Commander or should it?
- 3 A. Well, it depends. So to put it in context, you take any
- 4 one of those individual incidents and no, not necessarily. There's a
- 5 whole layer of command that can deal with that. So it's hard for me
- 6 to answer your question of if this happened -- this incident
- 7 happened. Those are the kinds of things that if that event occurs,
- 8 the first one you described, a squad leader probably would address it
- 9 and it all depends on what's behind it and all of the other
- 10 circumstances surrounding it and why did it occur. A table flipping
- 11 by itself could just be an emotional outburst. It could be a single
- 12 incident that somebody just lost their cool. It could be an
- 13 indicator of patterns. There's all kinds of things that go behind
- 14 it. So that's why I'm kind of careful how I respond to your question
- 15 of a Soldier grabbing a weapon, I would expect that a Comp -- the
- 16 average Company Commander or First Sergeant could handle that. I may
- 17 have been made aware of it by the chain of command, just to go, "Hey,
- 18 sir, by the way, this thing occurred, we got a handle on it, this is
- 19 what we're doing about it," so it could rise. Again it all depends
- 20 on some of the specifics behind the individual and the other things
- 21 that had been going on in the organization.

- 1 Q. During the deployment, sir, were you ever made aware of any
- 2 memorandums for record that Master Sergeant Adkins wrote concerning
- 3 PFC Manning?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. After the deployment were you ever made aware of those?
- 6 A. I don't think so.
- 7 Q. So today as you say, you haven't seen any memorandums
- 8 written by Master Sergeant Adkins concerning PFC Manning?
- 9 A. I haven't seen any, no.
- 10 Q. Now I want to ask you a few questions about what you did
- 11 after PFC Manning was arrested, okay?
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. Did you and your staff conduct an after action review?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q. What was the purpose of that after action review?
- 16 A. We wanted to find out if any procedures or processes we
- 17 were carrying out or not carrying out may have been part of how this
- 18 occurred. And separate from that, even if they weren't part of what
- 19 occurred, how are we doing across the spectrum of operational
- 20 security, physical security, information assurance, all of those
- 21 things. Because it prompted a reason for us to take a look at
- 22 ourselves and make sure we're doing things to the best of our
- 23 ability.

- 1 Q. And sir, from your memory, after the after action review,
- 2 did the brigade in the institute access controls on folders on the
- 3 shared drive?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And, sir, did the brigade also limit removable media
- 6 writing privileges to select computers and select individuals?
- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Sir, after the action review did the brigade also require
- 9 the reestablishment of random entry and exit inspection programs for
- 10 T-SCIFs?
- 11 A. Yes, I believe we did.
- 12 Q. And, sir, did the brigade also start enforcing the rules
- 13 regarding unauthorized media on the shared drive and in the T-SCIF?
- 14 A. Yes. That I think we had been doing before that, but we
- 15 certainly increased our focus on it.
- 16 Q. And, sir, after the after action review, did the brigade
- 17 draft a DEROG SOP?
- 18 A. To be honest with you, I don't remember whether we did or
- 19 not, I think that -- but I believe we did.
- 20 Q. Sir, from your memory then regarding that, why did you
- 21 draft a DEROG SOP?
- 22 A. Well again, so it's important to understand the context of
- 23 the review we did. The review we were doing went, like I said,

- 1 beyond the scope of just responding to what occurred with Manning, it
- 2 was looking at all of these processes. Now a DEROG, the completion
- 3 of DEROGs technically is an Army wide challenge. So it's just like
- 4 keeping up with TDY vouchers. It's a problem in every installation,
- 5 including Fort Meade and across the Army, I've found those through to
- 6 completion. The completion of the DEROG report itself though doesn't
- 7 mean that appropriate action wasn't taken. The tracker, when you
- 8 usually find, is that the commands have taken action. They just
- 9 didn't close out the DEROG. And so it's usually a matter of going
- 10 back and having the commands go, "Hey, what did you do in this case,
- 11 what did you do in this case, what did you do in this case," and they
- 12 finish the DEROG form. Which is just writing in, "Soldier got an
- 13 Article 15. Charges were filed unsubstantiated, no action taken."
- 14 And then submitting the DEROG in to get the thing closed out. So 90
- 15 percent of those DEROGs that are open are because of administrative
- 16 not -- lack of follow through on those, the document itself, not that
- 17 action wasn't taken to address the circumstance ----
- 18 O. And what ----
- 19 A. ---- just to put it in context.
- 20 O. What guidance, in general, did you put out with a new DEROG
- 21 SOP, do you recall?
- A. I do not.

- 1 Q. With regards do the actual filing you said, "That's a
- 2 problem." So your understanding that once it's filed and then that
- 3 becomes kind of a historical record for other commands to see any
- 4 issues with a particular Soldier?
- 5 A. I suppose that would be one use of the DEROG.
- 6 Q. Sir, I'm going to retrieve from you Defense Exhibit Kilo-
- 7 Kilo-Kilo for Identification.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. Sir, thank you. I have no further questions.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 MJ: Cross examination?

12 CROSS-EXAMINATION

13 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:

- 14 Q. Good morning, sir. Just give me one second.
- A. Sure.
- 16 O. Sir, I want to start with the pre-deployment, your actions
- 17 regarding how you -- your review of your formation, essentially in
- 18 terms of who is going to deploy and who is not. Can you discuss the
- 19 process that you went through with your subordinate Commanders in
- 20 determining -- in scrubbing rosters essentially?
- 21 A. Sure. So I started to explain a little bit of that
- 22 earlier. So as we're moving closer towards deployment, we would meet
- 23 to review our standing list of non-deployables and take a look at all

- 1 of those. As I mentioned earlier, who were up for a chapters, for
- 2 elimination, for adverse reasons, who were medically non-deployable,
- 3 or any other category that might fit there, with a view towards
- 4 reducing those numbers in case of separation, as to separate as many
- 5 as possible. And for those who we couldn't separate on time know
- 6 clearly what the rear detached would be to finish separating those
- 7 Soldiers. Also taking a hard look at of those technically non-
- 8 deployable who could deploy and if they had a condition that -- when
- 9 you look at commands deploying the vast majority of the leadership's
- 10 going forward downrange and a smaller rear d with less capability to
- 11 handle certain cases is back at home station. So one of the
- 12 questions we would ask is, "Could that person's situation be better
- 13 dealt with at command forward or/and which ones couldn't," because of
- 14 the conditions in theater wouldn't support that or which ones were
- 15 better served with the known requisite leadership that were inherent
- 16 in the chain of command to deal with their particular circumstances.
- 17 So that was one of the criteria that we looked at to make those
- 18 subjective calls whether to go forward or not.
- 19 O. And, sir, these were, you know, you had your Company
- 20 Commanders first do their sort of scrub?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And they moved up and briefed their Battalion Commanders
- 23 and then you met with your Battalion Commanders and essentially went

- 1 over the entire formation and they sort of briefed you on, "Hey, this
- 2 guy's -- we're going to chapter this guy. He's medically
- 3 undeployable, etcetera." And that was all information provided to
- 4 you in the course of this review prior to deployment?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- Q. And, sir, I want to talk a little bit about the challenges
- 7 of the rear detachment with respect to the rest of the command going
- 8 forward. Can you talk a little bit about what a Brigade Commander
- 9 has to worry about sort of with the rear, what are the issues that
- 10 arise during deployments?
- 11 A. Sure. So a rear detachment does not exist under any table
- 12 of organization or equipment. So it's an ad hoc formation that every
- 13 unit creates out of necessity. So there's no authorization for that
- 14 in our structure. So every person you leave on the Rear D has to
- 15 come out of the organization that you're taking forward. When you
- 16 look at the demographics of a rear detachment, like I just mentioned,
- 17 you have a large number of Soldiers in that rear detachment that are
- 18 being separated from the military usually for adverse reasons,
- 19 multiple DUIs, drug use, other failure to meet military standards
- 20 kind of conditions. You have people that are in various stages
- 21 medical separation that need to be properly taken care of, treated
- 22 respectfully, and go through the medical board process and separated
- 23 from the service or in some cases treated back to health so they can

- 1 be deployable and get downrange. And then you have a category of
- 2 administrative requirements just to keep the functions of the
- 3 formation in the rear operating. Weapons qualification, maintain
- 4 maintenance of the facilities that are back there that you're going
- 5 to reoccupy when you return, and then significantly you've got family
- 6 readiness groups that are most important while you're deployed. And
- 7 so you're family -- your rear det -- your family readiness team on
- 8 your Rear D is a huge part of a function that you're rear detachment
- 9 has to perform. So it's a very small group that you have to create
- 10 out of hide, any of them a number of different circumstances.
- 11 There's some real challenges that go with it. So, for example,
- 12 you've got all of these Soldiers that you're separating from the
- 13 Army, men who tend to have a bad attitude. And so you've got to the
- 14 pick the right people to be on the rear detachment, the right
- 15 leadership, the right temperament, some strong leadership to
- 16 synchronize and coordinate that effort. In our case, you know, we
- 17 chose -- because you have a small group of folks with limited
- 18 resources to do that. I picked the best available Rear Detachment
- 19 Commander I could and the rear detachment non-commissioned officer in
- 20 charge. So I selected a Lieutenant Colonel who had been selected
- 21 already for a Battalion Command. So the Army had already marked him
- 22 as in the top 10 percent or less of his particular year group. And I
- 23 picked up the best First Sergeant in our brigade to be in the Rear

- Detachment Commander. You know, a guy with valorous awards and that 1
- 2 kind of thing, to get the right kind of leadership coverage. And
- 3 then we took another step, we test organized the rear detachment to
- make it as efficient as we possibly could. 4
- What do you mean by that, sir? 5 Ο.

18

- Α. Well, so I had an experience before we deployed when I
- first took command where I was coming back from a training event and 7
- I had a driver bringing our duty vehicle bringing me back from the 8
- training event and he was a little bit overweight. So I looked at
- him and I just asked him, you know, what his story was and it turned 10
- out that he was a medical chapter separation and waiting to get out 11
- 12 of the Army, he was not going on this deployment. He was going to go
- 13 on the rear detachment, and he had been on a previous deployment and
- he started telling me about experience when he first came into the 14
- 15 unit. And he was -- he arrived late to the unit during the last
- deployment, so he was a late deployer. So he came to the unit while 16
- the Rear D was functioning, which is another function of rear D to 17
- bring in new Soldiers, prep them, and get them ready to go downrange 19 and join the unit. And he said to me that my -- his first experience
- was his squad leader, when he first came to the unit, was from the 20
- 21 rear detachment and he was an NCO being chaptered out of the Army for
- 22 multiple drug use, and he abused, you know, him as a Soldier and then
- he made a comment to me that stuck -- sticks me to this day, he said, 23

- 1 "Hey, but, sir, that's just the way it is. That's part of the rights
- 2 of passage, you deal with that crap and then you go downrange and
- 3 that's just what you've got to deal with." So it struck me that
- 4 without some concerted effort, inherent in the rear detachment is a
- 5 new Soldier fresh to the Army full of vim and vigor and wanting to do
- 6 his part to serve America gets married up by happenstance with a
- 7 noncommissioned officer being separated from the Army and his first
- 8 experience is abusive. So I asked myself, "How are we not going to
- 9 let that happen?"
- 10 Q. And what did you do, sir?
- 11 A. We came up with the idea to organize the rear detachment so
- 12 that those things would not occur. We took each battalion on the
- 13 Rear D and give it a specific mission. So one battalion had the
- 14 separations of people, adverse actions, and medical, into two
- 15 different subcategories, and housed them in a separate set of
- 16 barracks and that chain of command focused on that mission. Inbound
- 17 Soldiers that were new to the unit that were there going to go
- 18 through reception staging and outward movement to deploy were in a
- 19 different battalion's category to keep that kind of thing from never
- 20 occurring. And that's why picking the right rear detachment
- 21 Commander was so important. Because at the battalion level you've
- 22 got a Captain and Sergeant First Class, at best, to manage their
- 23 level of rear detachment operations. So we found that that

- 1 methodology ended up working very well for us in preventing those
- 2 kind of circumstances from occurring.
- 3 Q. And, sir, is that sort of structure of a rear detachment,
- 4 is that something that you had heard of prior to you implementing
- 5 that in your brigade?
- 6 A. No. In fact, when I briefed it to General Terry, who was
- 7 our -- the 10th Mountain Division Commander at the time he found it a
- 8 pretty unique approach to a challenge that every unit has and we
- 9 ended up sharing that methodology with other brigades as a technique
- 10 that they might want to consider.
- 11 O. And, sir, is it fair to say that you as a Brigade Commander
- 12 going forward, going downrange, you put as much time and effort into
- 13 thinking about how to set up your rear detachment as you do with the
- 14 people going forward?
- 15 A. Absolutely.
- 16 Q. And why is that, sir.
- 17 A Again, you've got the preponderance of the leadership
- 18 forward. So I knew downrange if we've a challenge or issue, I got
- 19 all the energy and capacity forward already to deal with those. In
- 20 the rear I'm separated by thousands of miles and I've got limited
- 21 capacity in terms of resources back there. So getting that right is
- 22 crucial. It's crucial to take care of the families, because if
- 23 there's family issues then Soldiers mind coming off of what's going

- 1 downrange. We also want those families for the long haul in the
- 2 Army, not just the one deployment. So their perspective and attitude
- 3 about how things go during the deployment isn't just about, "I'm okay
- 4 for right now, but do we want to make this a lifetime career thing."
- 5 And the families vote as loud as anybody else on whether a Soldier
- 6 stays in the Army, you know, or not. So for those reasons and making
- 7 sure we had the right leadership back there to prevent focus from the
- 8 mission at hand pulling attention to the rear is why you'd want to
- 9 set conditions right up front and then when you did have an issue you
- 10 knew you had the right folks there to trust that they'd be able to
- 11 handle the situation.
- 12 Q. Give me one second, sir.
- 13 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 14 Q. Sir, let's talk about the removal of Major Clausen. Major
- 15 Clausen was removed because he didn't provide good intelligence
- 16 products to you as the Commander; is that correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. He wasn't removed because of his leadership skills?
- 19 A. No, not at all.
- 20 Q. Or his management skills?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 O. His deficiencies, at least in your mind, were not
- 23 management related?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. And you said on direct that Major Clausen wasn't
- 3 necessarily strong or weak, it was sort of an average Major?
- 4 A. From my observations, that's correct.
- 5 Q. And the person who replaced Major Clausen, Captain Lim,
- 6 that happened in the approximately January of 2010 time frame, sir?
- 7 A. Yeah, to my -- yeah, I believe that's correct.
- 8 Q. And Captain Lim is an outstanding officer?
- A. He is.
- 10 Q. He's a top ten percent officer?
- 11 A. Top two percent.
- 12 Q. And why do you say that, sir?
- 13 A. He has a combination of attributes and traits that we look
- 14 for in young officers. He's a strong leader. And by that I don't
- 15 mean just in imposing his will on people, I mean motivational. He
- 16 understands the larger picture, at least two levels up, so he's got
- 17 great perspective that you don't normally find in a young captain. I
- 18 would say that at that time he was performing as good or better than
- 19 most majors in my command. And he's a team player that shares his
- 20 expertise selflessly. He's a great lead by example kind of person
- 21 from everything from his physically fitness and programs to his
- 22 technical competence, to his care and treatment of Soldiers and

- 1 families. So I can't think of a particular area that I would say he
- 2 had a chink in his armor, so to speak.
- 3 Q. And he had been a battalion S-2 in a previous deployment?
- A. He had.
- Q. And generally the way the Army works is, you know, you're a
- 6 principal staff member, you know, at sort of battalion level and then
- 7 you may have a few jobs in there where you're like the assistant but
- 8 then you eventually -- the idea is that you go to brigade and you
- 9 become a principal staff member there?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And, sir, you also had other military intelligence officers
- 12 in the command that were there to help Captain Lim if there were
- 13 issues ----
- 14 A. Yes.
- 0. --- is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. In particular the Brigade Support Battalion.
- 18 A Yeah. Captain, well sorry, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Walters
- 19 was our Brigade Support Battalion Commander, who was an MI, a
- 20 Military Intelligence officer, as well. And so he was always
- 21 lending, coaching, and mentoring in oversight to our intel team. Not
- 22 just to Captain Lim, but to the entire intel team.

- 1 Q. So it's fair to say that you even had -- you had another
- 2 back stop there when you removed Major Clausen?
- A. Absolutely.
- 4 Q. Sir, I want to talk about Captain -- Major Dreher. He was
- 5 -- he took command about 3 months prior to deployment?
- A. Right.
- 7 Q. And he came recommended because he was older, he had had
- 8 previous Company Commands?
- A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And why is that for important an HHC Company -- or HHC
- 11 Commander?
- 12 A Yeah. HHCs in general and Headquarters and Headquarters
- 13 Company for a brigade in particular is unique from a typical Line
- 14 Company. And what makes it different is if, you know, if you're a
- 15 Rifle Company Commander all of your formation's energy is pretty much
- 16 going in one direction at any given time. Take the hill, so to
- 17 speak, that's not that complicated. Headquarters Company is made up
- 18 of a bunch of disparate sections all doing different things. The
- 19 rank structure is totally flipped from a typical company where you're
- 20 rank heavy. So a lot of the people in a HHC out rank the Company
- 21 Commander. All the field grades on the staff, you've got a lot of
- 22 senior NCOs, you've got a Brigade Commander in your company. So it
- 23 takes a level of maturity to not be the bullheaded, follow me, do as

- 1 I do Commander and be able to use a lot other leadership techniques
- 2 to get things done that need to get done and be value added for the
- 3 command. Because the real purpose of an HHC Commander or command
- 4 team, because the First Sergeant I put in that same category in my
- 5 mind, is to facilitate the command's ability to focus on the entire
- 6 brigade and not get bogged down on nuance details of what's going on
- 7 inside the company and the staff itself. So you're not a -- you
- 8 don't become a self-licking ice cream cone, so to speak.
- 9 Q. And, sir, Major Dreher was replaced by Captain Freeburg in
- 10 April of 2010 time frame; is that correct?
- 11 A. Right. I believe that's about right.
- 12 Q. And Major Dreher at the time he was the HHC Commander, but
- 13 he was also doing CHOPS as sort of a day job as well. Do you recall
- 14 that?
- 15 A. I think that's correct, yeah. We tried a number of
- 16 different things and I think that was one.
- 17 O. And what is CHOPS?
- 18 A. It's the Chief of Current Operations. So in the Tactical
- 19 Operations Center in the brigade headquarters we've got a whole staff
- 20 element overseeing what's happening throughout any 24-hour period.
- 21 That's how we keep situational awareness throughout the command of
- 22 what's going on and then make resourcing and allocation decisions and
- 23 react to the events in the battlefield as they occur.

- 1 Q. And, sir, you said that Major Dreher was replaced because
- 2 of -- there was some property accountability issues?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Aside from the property accountability issues, was Major
- 5 Dreher a good Commander?
- 6 A. He was acceptable. Yeah, he was doing okay.
- 7 Q. And what do you mean by that, sir?
- 8 A. The Headquarters was running satisfactorily. The things
- 9 that I thought needed to get done were getting done transparently to
- 10 the Commander. So by attention the Brigade XOs attention weren't get
- 11 pulled into things that pulled our attention off the greater command.
- 12 So as I described the purpose of the command, he was meeting the
- 13 overall purpose of HHC.
- 14 O. But Major Dreher would have taken appropriate steps if an
- 15 issue had risen to his level in your view?
- 16 A. I believe so. He had shown that in a previous command,
- 17 before he became the HHC Commander.
- 18 O. That would be true of Captain Freeburg as well, your
- 19 observations again ----
- A. Yes.
- 21 Q. ---- of Captain Freeburg?
- 22 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Sir, let's talk about then Master Sergeant Adkins now
- 2 Sergeant First Class Retired Adkins. Well, but first I want to the
- 3 sort of back up. What was the Secretary of the Army 15-6?
- 4 A. What was it?

13

- 5 Q. Yeah, what was the purpose of it?
- 6 A. So my understanding of that purpose it was to not so much
- 7 be a mirror investigation to the investigation resulting in this
- 8 trial, it was an investigation to look across the Army breadth and
- 9 depth in terms of how we do everything, from established DA policy to
- 10 how we train Soldiers in basic training and advanced individual
- 11 training to how we hand off Soldiers from Basic and AIT to units that
- 12 they're going to deploy to, you know, how we handle deployables and

non-deployables it was a holistic look Army wide, and with drilldown

- 14 into the brigade as an example of how all of those things done to
- 15 find out where there are things that can be adjusted. If policy
- 16 needs to change, if how we're training people isn't meeting adequate
- 17 training regimen. We looked at the information assurance
- 18 requirements and are they adequate. And so, for example, Captain
- 19 Cherepko, our guy who does all of those things, had, you know, 37
- 20 different places to go -- or something, I'm making that number up,
- 21 but some wide variety of requirements. And could we better
- 22 consolidate those so they're better understood, and then looking for
- 23 what are the standards and where are there they clear, where are they

- 1 vague. So it was a very hard look across the Army on why are we
- 2 doing things and where can we do them better. What needs to change
- 3 and that kind of thing.
- 4 Q. And Lieutenant General Caslen was the investigating
- 5 officer?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. And then you had a number of Lieutenant Colonels that were
- 8 kind of doing the day-to-day ----
- 9 A. Right.
- 10 Q. ---- busy work?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And they were interviewing members of the unit in January
- 13 of 2011, approximately? Do you recall when that was?
- 14 A. Yeah. That sounds about right, yeah.
- Q. At least -- but -- and, sir, this goes back to Adkins now.
- 16 At least with respect to Adkins, he wasn't somebody that you had
- 17 visibility on at all and I think -- is that right?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. Is it fair to say that a lot of what was provided to you,
- 20 with respect to Adkins by the 15-6 -- 15-6 was sort of rumor,
- 21 innuendo, otherwise, you know, sort of after the fact looks at what
- 22 happened?

- 1 A. Yes. After the fact I think is a very adequate description
- 2 of what I was given.
- 3 Q. Sir, I want to talk about managing risk. Can you describe
- 4 your philosophy in terms of where a commander needs to put his sort
- 5 of best Soldier, at least when -- while deployed?
- 6 A. Sure. In general, and I don't think my philosophy is
- 7 drastically different than the commanders that I served with when I
- 8 was a Brigade Commander, you want to take the least amount of risk in
- 9 theater, in particular where the rubber hits the road, so at the
- 10 lowest levels. So you want to make sure that from a skill sets and
- 11 percent fill that your line units have all of the resources they need
- 12 and if you have to take risk, because you only got so much of any
- 13 given capability, you take risk at the higher echelons as you go up.
- 14 So in general, that's -- you want resource your subordinate commands
- 15 and make sure they got everything they need. And if you've got to
- 16 take risks somewhere, you'll take it at your level or try to push it
- 17 back to the next higher level.
- 18 O. And that's a command philosophy throughout the Army?
- 19 A. That's pretty common philosophy.
- 20 O. Sir, Mr. Coombs in his direct brought up a number of issues
- 21 with respect to briefing numbers prior to deployment in terms of who
- 22 you're going to leave behind and then while you're deployed sending
- 23 people back. Did you ever feel any pressure, as a Brigade Commander

- 1 in Iraq, that you couldn't send a Soldier home who needed to be sent
- 2 home ----
- 3 A. No, not at all.
- 4 0. ---- for mental health reasons?
- 5 A. Not at all.
- 6 Q. And can you just elaborate on that, sir?
- 7 A. Well, you know, one thing commanders do, I mean, the
- 8 mission and accomplishing the at hand is, you know the job, but hand
- ${f 9}$ in hand with that is taking care of Soldiers and families. So
- 10 commanders making calls as to redeploy Soldiers, I never had a
- 11 commander question my authority to do that. They may ask why, but it
- 12 was never done in the way that was like, "You shouldn't be doing
- 13 that. You need to keep everybody, you know, forward," and that kind
- 14 of thing. So the purpose for redeploying Soldiers is because there's
- 15 something back in the rear that's going to make things better for
- 16 that Soldier and a meet a require -- a need or requirement for that
- 17 individual or group. So it's -- yeah, the whole term, "Pressure," to
- 18 me is just falls flat with a chain of command that's functioning
- 19 properly.
- 20 O. And a -- when you were a Company Commander or platoon
- 21 leader or any of that, did you ever have Soldiers who were -- you
- 22 know, got angry at you?
- 23 A. Sure.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Relevance, Your Honor.
- MJ: Yes. Overruled.

3 Questions continued by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:

- 4 Q. Soldiers ever get angry with their squad leader or team
- 5 leader or their Company Commander, anything like that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. Is that, you know, an outburst of anger is that generally a
- 8 reason for a derogatory -- initiating derogatory action?
- 9 A. That by itself, not at all.
- 10 Q. And why is that, sir?
- 11 A. Well, I mean, you just think about it. In anybody's daily
- 12 life, whether you're in the military or not, somebody in the
- 13 workplace having an anger outburst, I mean, how often does that
- 14 happen? You know, its context. So somebody getting upset about
- 15 something by itself, there are so many tools that in a leader's kit
- 16 bag to handle that particular kind of a thing that, you know, it has
- 17 to pass a threshold of some kind of behavior of that individual
- 18 incident or some pattern that's developed over time that would cause
- 19 a leader to do something that would result in a DEROG.
- 20 Q. And, sir, why do leaders need to use every tool in their
- 21 kit bag in order to deal with -- why do we invest time and energy in
- 22 Soldiers?

- A. That's what the Army is. I mean, in the end of the day,
- 2 you know, if you talk to the Chief of Staff on down the Army is
- 3 people. And so we're in the business of growing and developing
- 4 Soldiers and leaders to -- for the long haul and to be prepared for
- 5 the next level of responsibility and leadership. So we're not in an
- 6 environment of somebody made a mistake, kick them to the curb. It's
- 7 the exact opposite. Our job is to understand them, find out what's
- 8 making them tick, help them develop themselves to the next level, and
- 9 grow as humans and as Soldiers. I mean, that's what our whole
- 10 profession's built upon.
- 11 Q. And sir, how does behavioral health treatment play into
- 12 that?
- 13 A. Well, today right now resiliency and readiness are a huge
- 14 campaign across the Army. And it's not a new thing, it just has
- 15 added attention and energies. Because we've been at war for such a
- 16 long period of time and we've seen, as you'd expect, more behavioral
- 17 health challenges across the formation. When we were deployed we had
- 18 behavioral health teams embedded in our formation. They were part
- 19 of that 4,000 Soldiers that were downrange. And what they did is
- 20 they rotated around to all the combat outposts and forward operating
- 21 bases on a daily basis and linked up with First Sergeants and Company
- 22 Commanders and said, "Hev, we're the behavioral health team, we're
- 23 here if you've got anybody that wants or needs to see us." And those

- 1 were announced in our daily -- we do a daily tasking order/operations
- 2 order that publishes things that are happening throughout the
- 3 formation. So units would know in advance when these folks would
- 4 show up and that's why we mentioned the 24 Commander for behavioral
- 5 health folks. There were 300 some folks that took advantage of the
- 6 behavioral the health team when we were downrange. For everything
- 7 from things like tobacco cessation and sleep problems, to, on the
- 8 higher end, suicidal ideations or other stressors that may be going
- ${f 9}$ on in their lives that were causing them to have issues that they
- 10 were seeking counsel for. So we put a huge amount of energy into
- 11 services for Soldiers with varying behavioral health challenges and
- 12 issues.
- Q. Sir, at any point, and I'm talking early in deployment now,
- 14 were there any suicides in the brigade?
- 15 A. We had three suicides, two deployed and one in the rear.
- Q. And, sir, at any time did you initiate a -- sort of a
- 17 survey ----
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 O. --- of the command?
- 20 A. We initiated a -- what I call the 100-day review.
- 21 O. Can you describe that for the Court please, what that was?
- 22 A. So in light of these suicides and a concern that if you've
- 23 got three suicides who else -- who knows what else below the level of

- 1 a suicide is brewing in the formation. I, with the consultation of
- 2 my Sergeant Major, wanted to get a better understanding of what was
- 3 the health of the formation. And I mean the mental, spiritual,
- 4 physical health of the formation. And so ----
- Q. And this is 100 days into the deployment, sir?
- 6 A. Right.
- 7 Q. Okay. Go ahead.
- 8 A. So 100 days in and then in the aftermath of the most recent
- 9 suicide I was thinking about it and how can we, you know, make sure
- 10 that we don't have a climate or conditions that were contributing to
- 11 this. Because every life is obviously critical and valuable, but
- 12 also there's an impact on the tone and mood of the whole formation.
- 13 So the purpose was to -- I pulled in the Brigade Surgeon and all the
- 14 physician's assistants. I pulled in all of the equal opportunity
- 15 reps. I pulled in all of the behavioral health specialists and a
- 16 number of other folks that had a role in -- the chaplains, all of the
- 17 chaplains were pulled in and all of the Command Sergeant Majors. And
- 18 I said, "Hey, I wanted to come up with kind of a way of pulsing the
- 19 formation to find out their -- how well Soldiers feel about
- 20 themselves, how well they the understand their job, the linkage of
- 21 their job to the mission of their small unit, the linkage of their
- 22 small unit to the overall mission."

- 1 Q. And why is that important, sir? The linkage of the small
- 2 unit to the overall mission, the Soldier on the ground, the overall
- 3 mission?
- 4 A. Well, this is where self-worth comes from. Do you believe
- 5 that what you're doing every day has a purpose and it matters, okay?
- ${\bf 6}$ $\,$ So if you can make that connection from what I do every day and how
- 7 it relates to the mission and how if I don't do my job the mission is
- 8 not going to happen and if I can understand the importance of the
- 9 mission, not just the small unit, but all the way up national
- 10 security and preserving America's way of life, if you have that
- 11 linkage that's one of the categories that will help you have a
- 12 balanced mental, physically, and spiritual sense of self. It's not
- 13 the only one. You've got family and all of those other things that
- 14 go along, but that's one that we can help influence through active
- 15 leadership. So we wanted a sense and we did this by going out and
- 16 developing a list of questions that we did small unit discussions
- 17 across ----
- 18 Q. How small a unit, sir?
- 19 A. Platoon size.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. And so those folks broke out and over the next 30 days they
- 22 went out and did all these sessions with the Soldiers. There was
- 23 also a questionnaire that went with it, but it wasn't part of the

- 1 interview sessions. The questionnaire came back through the doctors
- 2 channels. So then we would get a read for how the group's feeling
- 3 for that level and get a general read back it. They had a secondary
- 4 task of, just based on their own experience and knowledge, sensing if
- 5 anybody in that particular group seemed to be kind of on the
- 6 periphery, if you will, a little bit out from the group norm, in any
- 7 kind of behavioral manner whatsoever. And all I wanted them to do
- 8 was if they saw that was just to give that information to the
- $\boldsymbol{9}$ $\,$ battalion level leadership so that they could follow up and just see
- 10 if there's anything behind the observation that this person needed.
- 11 Just as another check to make sure we weren't letting folks who might
- 12 need some assistance get that help. So we put that review into place
- 13 and ran that through in that 100-day mark to kind of get a read on
- 14 how the formation was doing.
- 15 O. And, sir, is that 100-day review, or 100-day survey, is
- 16 that something you've seen in other units or anywhere else in your
- 17 time in the Army?
- 18 A. I have not actually. I don't know that other units may
- 19 have not have done something similar. What I didn't want to do is
- 20 just do one of the standard, everybody do the EO climate survey where
- 21 you get these list of 40 questions, you fill out the A through D, yes
- 22 or no, how do you feel kind of thing and then turn it in. I wanted

- 1 something more personal in nature to get the -- all the reads you get
- 2 from the personnel contact with people.
- 3 Q. Sir, I want to finish by just asking you about your
- 4 experience with PFC Manning prior to the deployment. Did you have
- 5 any -- at any opportunity to interact with PFC Manning prior to the
- 6 deployment?
- 7 A. There were the couple of briefs he did to the command
- 8 group. Prior to deployment we were doing our -- I think as part of
- 9 the Global Response Force Mission actually, and we were doing our
- 10 operations and intel updates to maintain situational awareness across
- 11 the globe.
- 12 Q. And so, in those opportunities to have sort of a personal
- 13 interaction with PFC Manning, what were your impressions of him?
- 14 A. My impression of that he seemed pretty squared away. These
- 15 were snapshots, articulate, and had a pretty good understanding of
- 16 the information -- the information that he had, I think he had a way
- 17 to go with the analysis piece, but that's what I would have expected
- 18 from that that level of experience.
- 19 Q. Give me one second, sir.
- 20 ATC[CPT MORROW]: No further questions. Thank you, sir.
- 21 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No redirect ----
- 22 MJ: Mr. Coombs?
- 23 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: ---- Your Honor.

- 1 MJ: All right. Colonel Miller, I just have a couple of
- 2 questions.
- 3 WIT: Yes, ma'am.
- 4 EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL
- 5 Questions by the military judge:
- 6 Q. Very early in your testimony I believe you said that you,
- 7 in order to separate somebody for mental health reasons you needed a
- 8 chop by a doctor saying that this is appropriate.
- 9 A. To redeploy them from theater ----
- 10 Q. Yes.
- 11 A. --- I would require that there's a doctor's recommendation
- 12 in that packet.
- 13 Q. So for other -- did you have discretion for other non-
- 14 mental health related causes to just say if the command says, "You
- 15 know, I just don't think this Soldier needs to be here," for any
- 16 number of reasons, did you have discretion to say, "I agree, I'm
- 17 going to redeploy the Soldier?"
- 18 A. Technically, yes. Because commanders override pretty much
- 19 applies to pretty much anything. But that's something to be very,
- 20 very careful about doing without linking it to some kind of
- 21 requirement or regulatory piece, but, yes.

- 1 Q. Did you have discretion to override a recommendation from a
- 2 mental health provider that says, "He's fine to stay here in a
- 3 deployed environment?"
- 4 A. Yes. I believe we did. Although that probably would have
- 5 brought a lot of scrutiny.
- 6 Q. So the rear detachment that you also testified about, do
- 7 the units get reserve backfill for that or ----
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. ---- is it completely out of hide?
- 10 A. There's no backfill at all for those. The only reserve
- 11 backfill for the rear detachment is that the division level. The
- 12 Senior Commander for an installation, the past few years, has been a
- 13 National Guard Army Reserve Brigadier General.
- 14 O. And that doesn't trickle down?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 MJ: Any follow up based on that?
- 17 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 18 MJ: Temporary or permanent excusal?
- 19 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permanent, Your Honor.
- 20 MJ: Any objection.
- 21 ATC[CPT MORROW]: No, Your Honor.
- Well, sorry, give me one second.

MJ: All right. Why don't we do this? We'll just -- we're 1 2 going let everybody leave, but we will just temporarily excuse the witness. 3 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from 5 the courtroom.] CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Ma'am, if we can take a 10-minute comfort 6 break and then we'll call Lieutenant Colonel Kerns. 7 MJ: Any objection? TC[MAJ FEIN]: No objection. 9 MJ: The court is in recess until 1135. 10 [The court-martial recessed at 1126, 12 August 2013.] 11 [The court-martial was called to order at 1138, 12 August 2013.] 12 MJ: Please be seated. Court's called to order. Let the record 13 reflect all parties present when the court last recessed are again 14 15 present in court.

Mr. Coombs?

Colonel Brian Kerns.

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CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense calls Lieutenant

- 1 LIEUTENANT COLONEL BRIAN KERNS, U.S. Army, was called as a witness
- 2 for the defense, was sworn, and testified as follows:
- 3 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 5 Q. Sir, if you would please take a seat. I want to start off
- 6 by talking to you about your duty position in the 2009/2010 time
- 7 frame. What was your duty position at that point?
- 8 A. I was the Executive Officer for the 2nd Brigade Combat
- 9 Team.
- 10 Q. And how long were you the Brigade XO?
- 11 A. Well I think for the total amount of time, you know,
- 12 somewhere between 18 and 24 months. I took the job the summer before
- 13 the deployment, roughly the May/June time frame, and extended all the
- 14 way through the deployment. When we got back we switched out in
- 15 October. So I guess it would have been 18 months.
- 16 Q. May/June time frame of 2009 ---
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. ---- to October ----
- 19 A. To October of 2010, that's correct.
- 20 O. Now, I want to ask you a few questions about, from your
- 21 perspective, the brigade's guidance regarding selecting those members
- 22 who would and would not deploy with the brigade, okay?

- 1 A. When you say -- are you talking about non-deployable
- 2 Soldiers? Is that your question?
- Q. Correct.
- 4 A. Well then, you ----
- 5 Q. And so I'll just ask you some questions ----
- A. Okay.
- 7 Q. I was just got to say ----
- 8 A. I got you. Okay. I'm sorry
- 9 Q. I'm going to ask you some questions about that.
- 10 A. All right. Sure.
- 11 Q. What guidance did the brigade give, from your perspective,
- 12 of who would not deploy, the non-deployables?
- 13 A. Who would not deploy? Well, it's been a while.
- 14 Essentially we went straight off of Army regulations. So, you know,
- 15 there was guid -- you know, the big things were medical -- you know,
- 16 there's obviously a lot of different rules for who would deploy and
- 17 not deploy, but essentially that's all governed by Army regulations
- 18 and, you know, medical standards and whatnot. So the guidance is
- 19 simply, you know, if they meet medical standards they deploy, if they
- 20 don't they don't. It was, you know, same thing goes for legal and
- 21 those type of things. So we didn't offer anything that was contrary
- 22 to what our -- the guidance that we were getting from the Department
- 23 of the Army was.

- 1 Q. So if the chain of command wanted to leave someone back due
- 2 to a performance issue or believed that they were unfit for the
- 3 deployment duty, what would -- what did they need to do?
- A. Just like in any case, you know, they would have to be a
- 5 counseling packet, you know, a pattern, you know, of showing, you
- 6 know, why. So it -- so they -- so it had to have been substantiated.
- 7 You know, it couldn't just be, "Well I don't feel like this guy can
- 8 deploy." So they had to show cause, essentially, why they're not
- 9 deploying. So if they were, for example, a chapter case then there
- 10 would have to, you know, and they initiate the chapter and then there
- 11 would have to have be a counseling packet that would go with that
- 12 would be worthy of chaptering that Soldier.
- 0. So if you didn't have a chapter packet, am I understanding
- 14 you correctly, that if the command simply said, "We didn't -- we
- 15 don't feel like deploying this guy because we don't believe he should
- 16 deploy," without some sort of supporting documentation would that be
- 17 supported by the brigade or not?
- 18 A. Well, you know, that's always -- when you say, "Supported
- 19 by the brigade," that's the Commander's call. So that's the decision
- 20 between the Battalion Commander and the Brigade Commander, and you
- 21 have -- you know, some of those discussions are one-on-one. So I
- 22 wouldn't be privy to that.
- 23 But in terms of the quidance, you know, it was, "Okay. We

- 1 look at a packet," again depending on what the stature of that was
- and does it meet the conditions in accordance with Army regulations
- 3 or whatever guidance had been put out by higher headquarters. If it
- 4 met that guidance then we would tell a unit, "He's non-deployable,"
- 5 and they don't deploy. If not, then certainly the Commander has
- 6 discretion and that would be a call between, you know, the
- 7 subordinate Commander and then Colonel Miller. He would have been
- 8 the one to make that decision. Albeit though, that the guidance is -
- 9 pretty much we go along with, you know, the standard guidance we go
- 10 along with whatever the factors were for that specific condition
- 11 which, you know, there's a myriad of them, hundreds of different
- 12 cases where that might be.
- 13 Q. And just to make sure I understand you then, if I as the
- 14 Company Commander came to battalion and then Colonel Miller and said,
- 15 for whatever reason, "I don't believe this Soldier should deploy."
- 16 Colonel Miller could make that determination to say yes or no?
- 17 A. You know, I don't -- I'm not sure I can answer that
- 18 question right now because without -- there's so many different
- 19 factors involved there.
- 20 Q. I guess what I'm getting at is, did Colonel Miller have the
- 21 final say, yes or no, or did someone above him have the final say?
- 22 A. Again, there's so many different situations involved there.
- 23 In some cases he doesn't have the say. Because, for example, if a

- 1 medical officer says someone is non-deployable then he has no choice
- 2 but to go with what that individual is saying. You know, it's been a
- 3 few years. So without going back and understanding what cas -- there
- 4 are just so many different options out there that it would be really
- 5 hard for me to say. You know, to say he's the final authority would
- 6 be inaccurate. Because there are a lot of different factors involved
- 7 with deployable and non-deployable Soldiers in determining who was
- 8 deployable and who was not, and you run through each case
- 9 individually to determine, you know, if you think it's warranted or
- 10 not for that Soldier to deploy or not deploy based on, you know, the
- 11 rules. Some of those rules are up to interpretation, obviously, you
- 12 know, whether or not they meet the conditions for a chapter, for
- 13 example, or that kind of thing, those are sometimes, you know,
- 14 judgment calls, I suppose. But at the end of the day, you know,
- 15 there would have to be grounds for it. There would have to be a
- 16 counseling packet or a file of some sort. You know, I would say with
- 17 relatively certainty that there's almost no situation where a
- 18 Commander is just going to come and say, "Hey, I don't think this
- 19 guy's going to deploy." It would have to have been substantiated
- 20 with some type of documentation that comes forward so Colonel Miller
- 21 could look at it and say, "Yes, I agree with your assessment." But if
- 22 you just come to me with, "Hey, I don't think this guy can deploy," I
- 23 would find it hard to believe that Colonel Miller would approve

- 1 something like that. There was quite a bit discussions back and
- 2 forth for, you know, for all of these cases. As we led up to
- 3 deployment we spent quite a lot -- we put quite a lot of effort into
- 4 looking at these cases and trying to adjudicate who should and
- 5 shouldn't in some -- you know, so there's a lot of mental effort put
- 6 into it. But, you know, I'm going back 3 years ago. I'm not sure I
- 7 can say definitively that, you know, that was the case.
- 8 Q. Did anyone above Colonel Miller have to approve of a non-
- 9 deployable -- if Colonel Miller thought that person shouldn't be
- 10 deployed?
- 11 A. Not that I'm aware of. I don't remember anybody -- there
- 12 was certainly never a situation where someone came in and said, "No,
- 13 this person is not doing to deploy." So there was never anything
- 14 from above us telling us to deploy somebody or not deploy somebody,
- 15 it was, you know -- that I can recall.
- 16 O. The Brigade S-2, prior to the deployment, was that Major
- 17 Clausen?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And was the Brigade NCOIC for the S-2 Section Master
- 20 Sergeant Adkins?
- 21 A. Yes, that's correct.

- 1 Q. From your position, did Master Sergeant Adkins or Major
- 2 Clausen ever make a recommendation to you regarding whether or not
- 3 PFC Manning should deploy?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. From your perspective, was there any pressure placed upon
- 6 the S-2 section to deploy somebody that they feel shouldn't deploy?
- A. None.
- 8 Q. Had Major Clausen or Master Sergeant Adkins raised a
- 9 concern to you about whether or not PFC Manning should deploy, how
- 10 would that normally be handled?
- 11 A. Well, honestly, so as the executive officer I was not --
- 12 they had it so the HHC for the brigade, the Brigade HHC Company under
- 13 -- in terms of their chain of command, actually fell under Colonel
- 14 Walters, Lieutenant Colonel Walters at the time, now Colonel Walters,
- 15 who was the Battalion Commander. So technically all of those cases,
- 16 you know, the chain of command actually went from the section, to the
- 17 Company Commander, to the Battalion Commander. While I would be
- 18 involved in those discussions because obviously any impacts on the
- 19 staff impacted our ability to accomplish our mission, ultimately the
- 20 decision to deploy or not to deploy a Soldier or to recommend non-
- 21 deployability of a Soldier would lie to the chain of command. While
- 22 I was the supervisor of Major Clausen at the time, I technically
- 23 didn't have the authority of a Commander. So the command authority

- 1 resided within the battalion level command authority, the O5 command
- 2 level authority, resided in the BSTB Battalion, which was Lieutenant
- 3 Colonel Walters at the time. So they would have discussed it with me
- 4 if there was a -- but, as I said before, at no time was there a
- 5 discussion about from, what I recall, of not deploying Manning at the
- 6 time.
- 7 O. And you had mentioned that you supervised Major Clausen?
- 8 A. That is correct.
- 9 Q. And obviously then you had an opportunity to view his duty
- 10 performance?
- 11 A. That is correct.
- 12 O. And what type of duty performance was Major Clausen?
- 13 A. Ma -- you know, if I had to characterize, he was a very
- 14 hard worker. He was very conscientious. You know, I thought he had
- 15 -- he was an intelligent individual, but at the same time his skills
- 16 were not quite up to what we are looking for a Brigade S-2 deployed
- 17 in combat. He was unable to articulate the intelligence situation
- 18 and have a cogent conversation with the Brigade Commander that the
- 19 brigade command was looking for. So, therefore, you know, I thought
- 20 that his performance fell below standard. You know, he wasn't
- 21 horrendous, but I felt like he wasn't quite up to the task of being a
- 22 Brigade S-2.

- 1 Q. And was it your opinion that Major Clausen was a weak
- 2 leader?
- A. I've said that in the past. You know, I used the term,
- 4 "Weak leader." You know, and at the time it's -- that's a hard
- 5 characterization of Major Clausen. I thought his leadership could
- 6 have been stronger, certainly, you know, the circumstances of being
- 7 deployed in combat meant that we were looking for, you know, very
- 8 strong leaders. So I probably made that statement in the past, and I
- 9 think his leadership could have been better in the shop, yes.
- 10 Q. And was that actually your opinion, that he was a weak
- 11 leader?
- 12 A. That was an opinion, yes.
- 13 Q. Did -----
- 14 A. But, you know, I got to characterize that a little bit
- 15 though. Again, if you're looking at the standards that we're
- 16 achieved -- or applying towards that position, you know, I'm applying
- 17 a very high standard towards what we're looking for there because of
- 18 the circumstances being deployed in Iraq. You know, quite frankly
- 19 have we just been in a garrison environment and never deployed, you
- 20 know, Major Clausen's performance would have been adequate to sustain
- 21 himself, but in combat we were looking for we're looking for, you
- 22 know -- we're making decisions that impact Soldier's lives out there.
- 23 So if we feel like the leadership -- you know, we can get better

- 1 leadership someplace else, then we're going to make decisions to get
- 2 the best leadership in those positions as possible. So when I say,
- 3 "Weak leadership," you know, again under normal circumstances in
- 4 garrison environment, you know, his performance prob -- would have
- 5 been good enough to sustain him, but in combat we are looking for
- 6 somebody who had better leadership skills. And so that's why we made
- 7 the choice we did.
- 8 Q. Recognizing that he was not a strong leader, did you put
- 9 effort into counseling him and providing oversight?
- 10 A. There was quite a bit of development and we took some
- 11 steps. You know, for myself personally, I did counsel him. He was
- 12 also provided counseling from Colonel Walters who is also another
- 13 Military Intelligence Officer. We also took some steps to put
- 14 stronger leadership within the S-2 shop. And one of those being
- 15 Captain Lim who was the -- my Co-Company Commander at the time. So
- 16 when we knew he was a very strong leader. So we increased his role
- 17 as a part of the Brigade S-2 Section and then, you know -- and we
- 18 made some moves to help strengthen the leadership within the shop.
- 19 Q. And did you ever have the opinion that he tried to
- 20 decentralize operations but didn't have enough oversight to the
- 21 control within the S-2 Section?
- 22 A. That -- I know I made the statement during the 15-6
- 23 investigation. You know, looking back and trying to characterize

- 1 that, you know, we -- everything we do essentially is decentralized.
- 2 So to say, "Did he not have enough oversight," you know, at this
- 3 point, I'm not sure that I can say that from my vantage point within
- 4 the shop itself.
- Q. Did you have the opinion though, based upon what you saw at
- 6 JRTC, that ideally you would have replaced Major Clausen prior to the
- 7 deployment?
- 8 A. If we'd had a -- honestly, yes. If we'd had a better
- 9 option at the time, we would have gone with that option, but we did
- 10 not. So, you know, -- and there's also, you know, like with any
- 11 subordinate, you know, you're always trying to develop those
- 12 individuals. So we didn't want to just throw Major Clausen under the
- 13 bus, so to speak. We wanted the opportunity to help develop him
- 14 further. We didn't feel like -- at the time we felt like there was
- 15 still an opportunity to develop him and get him ready for deployment.
- 16 So we made the conscious decision to move forward with Major Clausen,
- 17 you know, using those mitigating factors that I talked about, you
- 18 know, with increased supervision, with increased leadership within
- 19 the shop, to move forward and allow him to be the S-2 within the --
- 20 you know, to start the deployment off and make a determination later
- 21 on if we felt that he wasn't up to the standards.
- Q. And did you also have an opportunity to view the duty
- 23 performance of Master Sergeant Adkins?

- 1 A. Not as much -- my interactions with Master Sergeant Adkins
- 2 were limited because that was -- his NCO functions. My primary
- 3 responsibilities, you know, were to supervise Major Clausen, so I
- 4 did, but not in quite the same manner as Major Clausen.
- 5 Q. Did you also make the determination that Master Sergeant
- 6 Adkins was a weak leader?
- 7 A. You know, from my, you know, limited assessment, you know,
- 8 limited ability to see him, I'm not in his shop, I can't see what
- 9 he's doing with the Soldiers. I mean, honestly, that's where the
- 10 ultimate determination would come from, but, you know, I didn't feel
- 11 that -- I didn't have overwhelming confidence in Master Sergeant
- 12 Adkins' either.
- 13 O. And so did you make the determination previously that he
- 14 was a weak leader?
- A. I've said that in the past. Again, that was a pretty harsh
- 16 statement. And when we were doing the 15-6 we were -- you know, we
- 17 were being over -- probably overly critical of ourselves, but I
- 18 definitely made that statement. But, you know, again, kind of
- 19 looking back reflecting on it, you know, my level of interaction with
- 20 Master Sergeant Adkins was not -- my direct involvement with him was
- 21 not -- while I saw him a lot, it wasn't -- I wasn't a direct
- 22 supervisor to him necessarily. So my characterization of him might
- 23 be a little terse and maybe would need a little -- you know, somebody

- 1 with a little more direct knowledge of his actual duty performance
- 2 and leadership capabilities.
- 3 Q. Being the supervisor of Major Clausen, were you aware of
- 4 how the leadership of those in the S-2 section was handled, as far as
- 5 the leadership chain?
- 6 A. I -- no, I didn't delve into the day-to-day operations of
- 7 the shops. You know, that fell upon the OICs and the NCOICs. I
- 8 understood how the shops were organized, but, no, I did not get into
- 9 the functions of how they managed their Soldiers or how they led
- 10 their Soldiers or how they delegated duties within the shops.
- 11 Q. At any time did anyone within your brigade complain about
- 12 Master Sergeant Adkins striping supervisors of their ----
- 13 A. Not while I was ----
- 14 0. ---- authority?
- 15 A. Not -- I -- you know, I found out about that after I
- 16 redeployed. I've never had anybody coming to me during -- while I
- 17 was actively the XO of the brigade and say anything like that to me.
- 18 Q. All right. So just do make sure I understand then, during
- 19 the deployment, and I guess until after the deployment, you didn't
- 20 have any complaints to you from anyone within the S-2 Section about
- 21 the leadership style of Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 22 A. Not that I'm aware of, no. I can't -- I don't recall
- 23 anybody coming to me and saying, you know -- that they, you know -- I

- 1 know -- I mean, I can say there's the typical grumblings of, you
- 2 know, "Master Sergeant Adkins did this or that," but no one directly
- 3 came and said that, you know, "This is how he managed the shop and we
- 4 feel it's wrong." I don't recall anyone ever coming to me and making
- 5 that type of statement.
- 6 Q. And then if I understand you correctly, you recall those
- 7 type of statements after the fact?
- 8 A. Well, you know, as a matter of the 15-6, the investigator
- 9 of the 15-6 told me -- he told me certain things that came out during
- 10 the 15-6 so -- and I've since read the statements that came out in
- 11 the 15-6. So I have a privy of seeing statements that individuals
- 12 within the 2 shop made that I wasn't privy to before or during
- 13 Manning's tenure at 10th Mountain.
- 14 Q. Did anyone after the fact actually make complaints to you?
- MJ: After the fact of ----
- 16 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: After the deployment, ma'am.
- 17 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 18 A. Make complaints? I don't recall anybody making a complaint
- 19 to me. You know, again, I recall being told that this is how things
- 20 were done. But I don't remember any -- you know, I don't remember
- 21 anybody coming to me and saying, you know -- well, you know, I guess,
- 22 you know, again I'm trying to think back on and how to characterize
- 23 that. Again, I -- you know, complaints in the Army come every day.

- 1 So when you say, "Complaints," no one ever made like a formal
- 2 complaint. I certainly may have in conversation talked to somebody
- 3 and they said, "Well I didn't like this or I didn't like that." So,
- 4 you know, there were other leaders that were strong leaders within
- 5 the shop, so they may have had strong opinions about the way things
- 6 were run. But no one ever came to me with, you know, a formal
- 7 declaration of, "This is how things were done, and we don't think
- 8 it's right."
- Q. Did you believe, prior to the deployment, that Master
- 10 Sergeant Adkins should not deploy as the NCOIC for the S-2?
- 11 A. I don't recall ever thinking that he shouldn't deploy. I
- 12 don't remember that being part of the conversation. I would have
- 13 preferred to have stronger leadership, but I don't recall ever
- 14 telling anybody that.
- 15 Q. I'm handing you what's been marked Defense Exhibit Lima-
- 16 Lima-Lima for Identification. If you would just take a look at that
- 17 and when you're done just look up at me?
- 18 [The witness did as directed.]
- 19 A. It says, "Ideally, the S-2 and NCOIC" ----
- Q. Well, no -- just look at me when you're done looking at
- 21 that.
- 22 A. Okay.
- Q. Do you recognize what this is?

- 1 A. I do. This is my rebuttal to the letter of reprimand that
- 2 I received for -- during -- from the 15-6 investigation.
- 3 O. And so this is something that you wrote; is that correct?
- 4 A. It is correct. These are my words.
- 5 Q. And in that did -- do you see where you reference that your
- 6 belief was he shouldn't have deployed as the ----
- 7 A. Well, I didn't ----
- 8 O. ---- S-2?
- 9 A. --- I said, "Ideally, we would have had somebody," -- I
- 10 mean, ideally, the S-2 and NCOIC should not have deployed in their
- 11 respective positions. But again, that's, "Ideally." I didn't say,
- 12 "They shouldn't have," I said, "Ideally, we would've had some --,"
- 13 and you know, when you put it in context, ideally, I would've had
- 14 somebody that was better, but that doesn't mean that they weren't
- 15 suited for the positions they were in at the time. So, ideally,
- 16 would I've liked to had a stronger S-2 and NCOIC team? Absolutely, I
- 17 would've liked to have had a stronger team. You know, so again, to
- 18 kind of characterize that, it doesn't mean that their duty
- 19 performance ever fell below the standards or would've said that they
- 20 should have been relieved. I don't believe that their duty
- 21 performance ever fell that low of a level. I feel that what I wanted
- 22 was the most competent leadership that I could possibly have. The S-
- 23 2 section is, again, one of the -- is a very critical component to

- 1 fighting counter-insurgency because of what we're doing out there.
- 2 So ideally, I would have had -- yes, ideally, I would have had, you
- 3 know, stronger leadership within those sections. But at the same
- 4 time, you know, there was never -- and while there were discussions
- 5 about Major Clausen there was never a discussion beforehand whether
- 6 or not Master Sergeant Adkins should be removed from that position.
- 7 None that I can ever recall having before that. But after the fact,
- 8 looking back, you know, would I -- I would say that, ideally, I would
- 9 have liked to have stronger leadership in there. But that doesn't
- 10 mean they weren't qualified to be in the position that they were in.
- 11 Q. And do you recall stating that whenever you had an issue in
- 12 the S-2 area you would go not to Master Sergeant Adkins but then to
- 13 Staff Sergeant Balonek?
- 14 A. Sergeant Balonek was a very competent, strong NCO within
- 15 the section and I felt that sometimes when I need quick action on
- 16 things that he was the individual I could go to. He was kind of a
- 17 go-to guy within the shop. And, you know, just like -- but that's
- 18 not untypical because, you know, if Master Sergeant Adkins is not
- 19 around I'm going to go not to the next person around. I'm going to
- 20 $\,\,$ go to the next person in line and talk to him. Just like I
- 21 frequently talk to the Ops Battle Captain or the Ops NCO, if there's
- 22 something happening, then I'm going to talk to the nearest
- 23 individual. And Sergeant Balonek was an individual I felt that was

- 1 very competent within the shop and if I needed something I could get
- 2 it done with him. And so, yes, I did often go to Sergeant Balonek,
- 3 now Mr. Balonek.
- 4 Q. Do you recall saying that, "Staff Sergeant Balonek was the
- 5 lone strong NCO, the only good experienced NCO in the shop, from my
- 6 perspective?"
- 7 A. Yeah, he was. He was -- again, the key term there is
- 8 experience. You know, because I had been on deployment with Sergeant
- 9 Balonek before. Sergeant Balonek and I had worked together in 2006
- 10 and 7 while I was the Chief of Operations for Brigade Combat Team and
- 11 he was an Ops Battle NCO. And so, you know, for me, I had kind of a
- 12 personal relationship with him and a professional relationship where
- 13 I had worked with him and I knew his ability. So I was very
- 14 confident in him because of the time I spent with him in Iraq in 2006
- 15 and 7 and I was never confident in his abilities. And I felt that
- 16 his experience in the shop and the things he had done set him apart
- 17 from the other non-commissioned officers. We did have a pretty
- 18 junior S-2 shop at the time because we put all -- we intentionally
- 19 put our stronger folks into the battalion so they would have the key
- 20 people down there.
- 21 Q. Were you ever made aware, at any point during the
- 22 deployment, of any memorandums for record that Master Sergeant Adkins
- 23 wrote concerning PFC Manning?

- 1 A. Not that I can recall, no.
- 2 O. Have you ever seen any memorandums for record that Master
- 3 Sergeant Adkins wrote concerning PFC Manning?
- A. At this point I don't recall any. You know, the 15-6 was
- 5 huge. So it's possible it was in as part of that, and I may have
- 6 read it at that point. I just don't remember seeing it.
- 7 Q. Now as the XO you were part of the command that was --
- 8 command group that was briefed on all of DEROGs; is that correct?
- 9 A. Partly -- I guess the answer to that -- well not
- 10 necessarily, no. You know, we -- was I part of that process, yes.
- 11 But that doesn't mean I necessarily received a formal briefing on
- 12 that or anything like that, so ----
- 13 Q. Did the brigade keep track of who had a DEROG initiated
- 14 against them? Was that something that was briefed?
- 15 A. Well, you know, as I stated -- you know, I believe that,
- 16 you know, after the fact, after learning what was going on that we
- 17 probably needed to tighten our standards up on our tracking systems
- 18 for DEROGs. So prior to the release of the information in the
- 19 Manning investigation it was not something that I had put a lot of
- 20 attention into and so after that, you know, I took specific actions
- 21 within the staff to improve our systems and made some recommendations
- 22 in order to make sure that we were in compliance with Army
- 23 regulations.

- 1 Q. And based upon your understanding, at what point by Army
- 2 regulations should a DEROG be initiated?
- A. Well, adverse action being the key one. So whenever
- 4 there's an adverse action taken against a Soldier that's the main
- 5 factor. So an Article 15 or, you know, or something like that then
- 6 you would -- you initiate that process or, you know, accused of a
- 7 crime or something like that.
- 8 Q. And if a Soldier with his security clearance commits a --
- 9 say an act of violence against another Soldier, would that be a basis
- 10 for the DEROG?
- 11 A. It would be the basis for starting a DEROG. It doesn't
- 12 necessarily mean that they would remove somebody's security
- 13 clearance. Initiating a DEROG means that they are going to review to
- 14 see if the circumstances warrant removing the security clearances.
- 15 We don't, you know -- so that would be sufficient reason to initiate
- 16 a DEROG. You know, with an Article 15 that goes with it. You know,
- 17 if there was an Article 15 then that would be sufficient reason to do
- 18 that, that's correct.
- 19 Q. And, again, for a DEROG just the fact that you initiate it,
- 20 does that mean that a Soldier's going to lose his or her security
- 21 clearance?
- 22 A. My -- you know, I'm not an expert in that process, but my
- 23 understanding is no, because it's essentially kind of like a learning

- 1 those who make decisions about security clearances so they can make a
- 2 determination whether or not this person presents a risk of releasing
- 3 classified information.
- 4 Q. Would it be fair to say then that a DEROG is just paperwork
- 5 trail about a particular individual that individuals were making
- 6 determinations on security clearances can see what's happened in the
- 7 past?
- A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Now who is responsible for initiating the DEROG?
- 10 A. Typically the Company Commander of the -- I believe it's
- 11 the Company Commander. Again, I'm not an expert in the process, so I
- 12 believe it's the Company Commander.
- 13 O. And in the December 2009 time frame was Major Dreher the
- 14 Company Commander?
- A. He was.
- 16 O. For PFC Manning?
- 17 A. He was.
- 18 O. And during the deployment, am I correct that both Major
- 19 Clausen and Major Dreher were removed from their respective
- 20 positions?
- 21 A. Well, yeah. Major Dreher was, but that was for supply
- 22 accountability reasons and it was -- yes, so, yes.

- 1 Q. Now I want to ask you a few questions about information
- 2 assurance within the brigade. Okay?
- A. Okay.
- 4 Q. Did Captain Cherepko ever come to you with concerns of
- 5 unauthorized media ----
- 6 A. He did.
- 7 Q. ---- on T-drive ----
- A. Yes.
- 9 Q. ---- and SIPRNET?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And when, from your memory, was that? I know it's been a
- 12 while, but ----
- 13 A. It was prob -- you know, it's really hard for me to
- 14 remember that. Maybe a couple of months into deployment. You know,
- 15 Cherepko didn't deploy with us right off the bat. He was a little --
- 16 I think he got -- he kind of hit the ground right when he got there.
- 17 So I don't remember the exact time frame, but a couple months in
- 18 maybe.
- 19 Q. And what, in generally, were Captain Cherepko's concerns?
- 20 A. The primary concern was to the introduction of viruses on
- 21 to our network. So the issues were never related to, you know,
- 22 people getting information off of the networks. The problem was is
- 23 that by putting software onto the network, putting media on to the

- 1 network, then you were led to potential of having a virus on to the
- 2 networks, which could interrupt our operations. So the primary
- 3 concern is that there was some people playing games and stuff like
- 4 that and some of the things already existed on the networks, and so
- 5 we -- and so he was concerned with the fact that they could disrupt
- 6 our networks. Because a virus gets into our network and it impacts
- 7 our ability to, you know, command and control. And so we wanted to
- 8 make sure that our networks remained stable and viable for all of our
- 9 troops downrange.
- 10 Q. From your perspective, what did the brigade do in response
- 11 to Captain Cherepko's concerns?
- 12 A. Well we -- you know, our response was, first is to educate,
- 13 you know, to make sure that everybody understands what the standards
- 14 are. So initially I kind of came to the determination that Soldiers
- 15 quite -- weren't quite aware that just putting things like movies and
- 16 music and games onto the system were -- was not authorized. So we
- 17 had to make sure everybody understood. So we took actions to brief
- 18 everybody, make sure they understood the standards and then from that
- 19 point forward, you know, if -- and whatever system was felt to
- 20 compromised that system would be taken off the network. So
- 21 immediately if there was a computer that had something on it that was
- 22 unauthorized that computer would come off the network. This was --
- 23 at least this was a guidance that in this that we put out that it

- 1 would come off the network. It would be cleaned and wiped basically,
- you know, doing whatever the Signal guys do to make sure that the
- 3 hard drive doesn't have any more unauthorized software on there. And
- 4 then it would be reintroduced back onto the network after it had been
- 5 certified by our signal folks. For the folks involved, you know,
- 6 first time offense would be counseling and then later on, you know,
- 7 if there's more than one offense then we, you know, I would -- it's
- 8 essentially up to chain of command what actions to take, but, you
- 9 know, one of the things that was potential was that they wouldn't be
- 10 allowed back on the network if there were multiple infractions of
- 11 that.
- 12 O. And do you recall any instances in which that was the case
- 13 where they were not allowed to go back on the network?
- 14 A. No. There was never a chan -- there was never a time when
- 15 I was briefed that there was multiple infractions. There were
- 16 infractions that after that initial push to get everything cleaned
- 17 up, there are some individual infractions out there, and we dealt
- 18 with them on a case-by-case basis. But I don't -- there was never a
- 19 time where I thought -- there was never a time that it was brought to
- 20 my attention that there was multiple abuses to that and, theref --
- 21 that required anything beyond a simple counseling statement or
- 22 cleaning up the system.

- Now after PFC Manning was arrested, did Colonel Miller 1
- order you to take a look at the info sec across the brigade? 2
- Yes. 3 Α.
- And how did you do this? Q.
- We -- you know, I just took my subject matter experts 5
- together. You know, for lack of a better term called it a, "Tiger 6
- Team," you know, we used terms like that. You know, we grabbed a 7
- group of subject matter experts that, you know, were from the S-2,
- from the SIGO, automations, you know, non-commissioned officers to 9
- look at, is it what -- you know, physically security. So we kind of
- looked at, you know, a holistic approach to our information security, 11
- both physical networks and those kind of things and to make some 12
- recommendations on how to improve our systems within the brigade. 13
- And in general what did you conclude based upon your 14 Q.
- 15 review?

10

- That there was a few recommendations that we made. The 16 Α.
- recommendations, which a lot of them were completely unrelated to 17
- what occurred here. Because honestly, most of them wouldn't have 18
- changed anything. But, you know, we made recommendations to disable 19
- DVD drives, for the write capability on them. We made 20
- recommendations -- the DEROG process which is a recommendation that 21
- we, you know, solidify our standard operating procedures for DEROGs. 22
- There was some physical security means that we -- that I think we 23

- 1 looked at and improved upon, and there may have been some others that
- 2 I just don't recall right now. But I think the main ones were
- 3 probably the rewrite capabilities, the DEROG, and some physical
- 4 security measures, and there might have been more. I just don't
- 5 recall at the time.
- 6 Q. Okay. And I want to talk about one of those, the DEROG.
- 7 Did you develop a DEROG SOP?
- 8 A. We -- yeah, you know, we were on our way out of Iraq at the
- 9 time. So what we ended up doing was basically just re -- we didn't
- 10 really develop an SOP. We just kind of reasserted the Army standards
- 11 for the DEROG process and make sure that everybody understood what
- 12 those were. So that was -- I won't say that we developed our own
- 13 internal SOP, but we just kind of rehashed what the Army standards
- 14 were for that.
- 15 Q. In your review did you come to the conclusion that one of
- 16 the biggest failures was not properly initiating a timely DEROG in
- 17 this case?
- 18 A. Well, yes, but it didn't relate to law -- that law -- you
- 19 know, the DEROG process wouldn't have happened until April when
- 20 Article 15 happened. So the fact that I said that, "Doesn't mean
- 21 that it would have changed anything," that happened with the loss of
- 22 information. But it just -- you know, because when we -- I guess to
- 23 put the context of 15-6, I wasn't so much as worried about one

- 1 incident. I was looking at the brigade operations as a whole. So if
- 2 we found something, even if it had -- it was completely unrelated to
- 3 the information loss that we had that we were to take action on it.
- 4 So the DEROG -- I did feel that -- I looked at it as a personal
- 5 failure because it was something I hadn't really looked before, was
- 6 the DEROG process and make sure we were in compliance with it. So I
- 7 felt like, you know, this is an area that we need to tighten our
- 8 systems up with. Just because -- doesn't mean that it led to or
- 9 caused anything, but I did believe at the time that we could've --
- 10 you know, we needed to fix our systems. That was my job as a XO was
- 11 to make sure our systems were in place to run the brigade. So when I
- 12 looked at a system and I saw it was broken, whether it was, you know,
- 13 as a result of just looking at something we hadn't look at it before.
- 14 So yes, I did feel that at the time we were not -- because of all of
- 15 the things we did, you know, I felt most of them were justifiable.
- 16 But the one that wasn't justifiable was the fact that we hadn't taken
- 17 a harder look at the DEROG process.
- 18 Q. And from your perspective as the XO were you ever briefed
- 19 on any instances involving PFC Manning in December 2009?
- 20 A. I can't recall, no. You know, I -- well, you know, I'll
- 21 tell you the earliest recollection I have is when, you know, we were
- 22 taking actions to remove Manning from theater and, you know -- and
- 23 that packet kind of came forward, you know, because every -- all of

- 1 those packets -- anybody that's going to move theater has to go
- 2 through the Brigade Commander which means that I'm part of the
- 3 process, that, you know, I'm doing one of those checks. So I'm
- 4 checking, you know, and at that point, you know, it came forward, you
- 5 know, I -- it's been a long time. I remember having a discussion at
- 6 some point about what was going on with this and said, "Okay. Yeah,
- 7 that makes sense," and then push forward. I -- when that happened, I
- 8 don't remember the exact time frame of that.
- 9 Q. The -- What you just talked about there of a packet to
- 10 remove PFC Manning from theater, when was that?
- 11 A. Again, I don't remember the exact time frame. That -- you
- 12 know, it would have been, you know, a few -- several months into the
- 13 deployment. I just don't remember the exact timing of it.
- 14 O. In 2010?
- 15 A. Likely, but I, again, I can't remember the exact time frame
- 16 of it. So I would -- I'd have to go back and look at it and see when
- 17 it was. Everything, you know, all this -- the deployments kind of
- 18 run together. So there's months in there I just don't recall.
- 19 There's a lot of actions going on. That's one of many actions that
- 20 goes forward. So I just don't remember the exact time frame of that.
- 21 T ----
- 22 O. And I underst ----

- 1 A. ---- think it was, to be honest with you, I think it was
- 2 later than -- I don't think it was as earlier as December, but I just
- 3 don't recall exactly when the time frame was.
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I understand. Retrieving from the witness
- 5 Defense Exhibit Lima-Lima-Lima for Identification.
- 6 No further questions, ma'am.
- 7 MJ: Cross-examination?
- 8 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Yes, ma'am.
- 9 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 10 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- 11 Q. One second sir.
- 12 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 13 table.]
- 14 Sir, I want to start with the statements that Mr. Coombs
- 15 discussed with you, the statements that you made previously. Those
- 16 are all statements made as part of the Secretary of the Army 15-6; is
- 17 that correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And initially you were interviewed by like a lieutenant
- 20 colonel?
- 21 A. Right. So around -- I think it was in the January time
- 22 frame, I got called. I never actually did a sworn statement. I just
- 23 -- I was a telephonic interview. And the first one was by a

- 1 lieutenant colonel working for General Caslen and then later on about
- 2 2 weeks later there was a phone call from General Caslen and I spoke
- 3 with him. So in January, in the time span of about three weeks ----
- 4 MJ: Just a moment. Yes?
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Just for clarification, the statement I
- 6 covered with the witness was his rebuttal statement, so not the 15-6
- 7 statement, and that's Defense Exhibit Lima-Lima-Lima for
- 8 Identification.
- 9 MJ: Why don't you look at Lima-Lima-Lima.
- 10 ATC[CPT MORROW]: I agree with that, but there were other
- 11 statements that he was were pulling that were otherwise.
- MJ: During the oral conversation?
- 13 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Yes.
- 14 MJ: Okay. Go ahead.
- 15 Questions continued by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- 16 Q. Just describe your interaction with the Secretary of the
- 17 Army 15-6, Colonel Kerns.
- 18 A. Describe my -- so again, they called to, you know, they
- 19 were -- obviously a 15-6 is the -- and, you know, I guess my -- you
- 20 know, I was in there trying to give opinions about what happened, how
- 21 the Army can do better in certain situations. But a lot of the
- 22 guestions to me were unrelated to the incident itself. They were
- 23 looking at -- again, you know, I was a little bit frustrated with the

- 1 fact they're -- you know, we would say, "Well this really had nothing
- 2 to do with the incident," but yet they still dug into certain things.
- 3 So they looked at all of the operations of the brigades when it came
- 4 to information security, regardless of whether or not it was directly
- 5 related to the information loss or not. So when they -- if they
- 6 asked me a question, I mean, I answered it truthfully as I could.
- 7 But in a lot of cases I was answering things based on secondhand
- 8 information because I didn't have direct knowledge of certain things.
- 9 For example, you know, Master Sergeant Adkins -- you know, obviously
- 10 at that point I had been affected because I had read the file. Yo
- 11 know, I had saw the initial investigative file on PFC Manning. So a
- 12 lot -- and so my judgment was somewhat swayed by not firsthand
- 13 knowledge, but by secondhand knowledge, and so I was offering
- 14 opinions based on assessments made by other people.
- 15 O. Right. You -- the 15-16 [Ssic] had a number of documents
- 16 in their possession and they were sort of asking you about, "Hey, if
- 17 you had known this at this time, ----
- 18 A. That's right.
- 19 Q. ---- would you have done?"
- 20 A. And I has -- and they referred to some of those documents
- 21 that I had already seen. So they -- I was able to see certain
- 22 documents, which -- so I was offering opinions not necessarily -- not
- 23 everything I was offering was direct knowledge of the incidents. It

- 1 was opinions about what happened. And, you know, from what I
- 2 gathered they were trying to get a sense of the systems within the
- 3 brigade and how we functioned. So they were kind of -- I thought
- 4 they were kind of systems approach focused. Which being the XO, I
- 5 can kind of give them context how everything within the brigade
- 6 operates and there were a lot of opinions that were asked of me.
- 7 And, again, a lot of things I didn't find out until after, you know,
- 8 the time frame of when the investigators came in and we got a call
- 9 from the DIA. It was, you know, they provided us with a packet of,
- 10 "This is what we're moving forward on." So I was able to read quite
- 11 a bit of stuff that I probably didn't have direct knowledge before
- 12 seeing that information or before talking to the 15-6. When the 15-
- 13 6, like you said, at times they would ask me questions about, "Did
- 14 you know this, did you know that?" My answer might be, "No, and
- 15 here's what I think of it."
- 16 O. And, sir -----
- 17 MJ: Before you get there, you testified earlier that you did
- 18 something -- you had the interview in January, January when?
- 19 WIT: January 2011, ma'am.
- 20 MJ: Thank you.
- 21 Questions continued by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- Q. And both of the interviews were in January of 2011; is that
- 23 correct, sir?

- A. That's correct.
- Q. And, sir, how many times have you deployed?
- A. To -- well, for OEF I've deployed three times. I've got
- 4 six total operation deployments in the Army.
- 5 Q. Did this brigade function any differently than any other
- 6 brigade that you'd ever been a part of in the Army?
- 7 A. Not, you know, not tremendously different, no. We fell
- 8 within, what I would consider to be, kind of the norms of brigade
- 9 combat teams.
- 10 Q. And, sir, stepping back for a moment, you talked about on
- 11 direct you discussed removing Major Clausen from his position. Major
- 12 Clausen, in your words, "Was sort of a weak leader," at least when
- 13 this was -- this after the fact look was instituted. But did he --
- 14 in your opinion, did he create a poor command climate?
- 15 A. No, you know, so, you know, cause you interview with --
- 16 leadership obviously is pretty broad based term. And, you know, so,
- 17 you know, if you go to the, you know, doctrinal definition of
- 18 leadership and you go to the Army doctrine publication 6-22, you
- 19 know, if I look at some of those leadership dimensions, you know, was
- 20 he weak in all of them, no. Some things he was very strong and some
- 21 things he was weak in. Of course, one of his weakest leadership
- 22 dimensions was his communication skills. He lacked -- what I saw in
- 23 him is he lacked confidence in communication skills, which impacted

- 1 his ability to directly communicate with the Brigade Commander. But
- 2 there was -- you know, we didn't, you know, I never saw what -- I
- 3 never physically saw and I don't believe it existed is like what I
- 4 would call like a toxic leadership environment. There was never a
- 5 point within his shop or within the S-2 Section that I felt that
- 6 there was like negative leadership applied. Where I say he was --
- 7 you know, his weak leadership, I mean, most of that interaction
- 8 occurred when he's dealing with the Brigade Commander and he's in
- 9 front of a large group and honestly his communication skills and his
- 10 lack of confidence, you know, two leadership dimensions that we value
- 11 people on, were not, you know, what you would want from a person
- 12 who's got has got to brief continuously and talk to some high level
- 13 individuals to include, you know, multi-star generals coming into the
- 14 Brigade Headquarters.
- 15 Q. So your observations of him were necessarily related to any
- 16 internal management of the shop?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 O. And that would -- the same be sort of true of Master
- 19 Sergeant Adkins, what you learned about Adkins was later on, after
- 20 the fact, hindsight essentially?
- 21 A. Right. And of course, you know, his own -- his direct
- 22 interactions with me. You know, I mean, you've got to kind of take
- 23 in context of, you know, I'm a CAB Armor Officer, you know, I've got

- 1 Infantry, it's an Infantry brigade, and, you know, our expect -- you
- 2 know, our expectations of the appearance and styles of leaders might
- 3 be different than if you're in other areas of the Army. So, you
- 4 know, I'm kind of referencing -- you know, we, again, we have a
- 5 somewhat high standard. You know, Master Sergeant Adkins has kind of
- 6 a disheveled look about him and those types of things. So that's
- 7 something that's a little unnerving for someone like myself who's
- 8 used to serving with combat arms formations. Whether it's a fair
- 9 characterization, you know, that's why I say it's a little harsh for
- 10 me to say though things. I feel a little judgmental of him, but it
- 11 was my characterization at the time.
- 12 Q. And, sir, in terms of the way the information flow -- well
- 13 actually let me back up one second. Sir, have you've been a S-3
- 14 before; is that correct?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- Q. And as the S-3 you had sort of an NCOIC of your section or
- 17 Sergeant Major?
- 18 A. It was a Sergeant Major or NCOIC; that's correct.
- 19 Q. Is it uncommon -- when you were in S-2 was it uncommon for
- 20 you to delegate enlisted personnel management issues to your NCOIC or
- 21 Sergeant Major?
- 22 A. Yes. I mean, it's what I would consider to be the norm.
- 23 Because as a staff officer, a primary lead staff officer, like an S-3

- 1 or an S-2 -- you know, the way I function was, is that the Sergeant
- 2 Major or Master Sergeant, depending what I had at the time, you know,
- 3 for the most part had, you know, that was his duty description was to
- 4 manage the non-commissioned officers and enlisted Soldiers of the
- 5 shop. So the direct leadership supervision in those types of
- 6 functions fell almost entirely under the NCOIC of the shop, you know,
- 7 with -- you know, if there's an issue that would could up, and, you
- 8 know, again, this was how I operated, you know, he would run it by
- 9 me, tell me this is what's going on. Of course I interacted with
- 10 Soldiers, but I wasn't dir -- involved in the direct supervision of
- 11 enlisted members. You know, as a primary staff officer, especially
- 12 S-2/S-3 sections, you know, you're really focused on the unit's
- 13 mission and not so much of managing your own shop. So that's why you
- 14 have senior level NCOs to do that for you.
- Q. Give me one second, sir.
- 16 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 17 table.]
- 18 Sir, in your capacity as the -- as a staff -- you know, the
- 19 XO and then in your prior positions or assignments as an S-3 or
- 20 assistant S-3 or any of your assignments, have you ever observed a
- 21 Soldier becoming angry with their supervisor?
- 22 A. Sure. I mean, I've seen agitated Soldiers before,
- 23 absolutely.

- 1 Q. And would an agitated Soldier necessarily lead to the
- 2 initiation of a DEROG?
- 3 A. No, not -- no, not -- I mean, you know, you're always going
- 4 to -- you know, you try and take the minimalist approach first and
- 5 you're going to counsel and try and rehabilitate. You know, if
- 6 there's a pattern of events, and eventually you might get to that
- 7 point, but, you know, one single, individual even would not
- 8 constitute -- not unless it was really an egregious event, wouldn't
- 9 constitute the need to do that.
- 10 Q. Sir, would you expect that as the XO the information flow,
- 11 in terms of -- for example, if you had a Soldier in the S-2 shop who
- 12 was going to -- the S-2 wanted to chapter that Soldier, where would
- 13 that information go -- flow go first? Would it go to the X --
- 14 straight to the XO or would it go to the HHC Commander?
- 15 A. You know, there are kind of parallel lines. Where it would
- 16 go first, most likely probably go to the HHC Commander first because
- 17 they're the ones that have the command responsibility. So it would
- 18 come to me as a matter of professional courtesy to make sure I know
- 19 what's going on within the brigade staff. Because, you know, it's,
- 20 kind of a -- there's some gray lines in terms of our chain of command
- 21 and how things work, but the command responsibility, again, relies
- 22 through the Company Commander. So that's where the command -- where
- 23 responsibility lies. And I don't have authority as a Commander, so

- 1 there's certain things I can't do. So I would expect it to move in
- 2 that route, and then also, at the same time, they'd be letting me
- 3 know what's going on because I'm overall responsible for the conduct
- 4 of the staff.
- Q. And sir, would you expect, as the XO, would you have
- 6 expected anger management issues with a Soldier to arise to your
- 7 level?
- 8 A. No, not from a junior Soldier, no. You know, not unless it
- 9 became very significant where we're talking about, you know, like a
- 10 court-martial type issue. But, you know, general day-to-day
- 11 operations of PFCs in the brigade, even on the brigade staff, those
- 12 would not have risen to my level.
- 13 Q. Sir, you talked about a number of actions taking with
- 14 respect to information security post Manning's arrest and these were
- 15 part of the AAR process afterwards?
- 16 A. Yes, that correct.
- 17 Q. And you disabled, essentially, write capabilities on
- 18 computers or at least for certain people ----
- 19 A. Certain number of computers, that's correct.
- 20 O. And you may or may not have developed a DEROG SOP, do you
- 21 recall whether that actually occurred?
- 22 A. I don't. We were, you know, at the point that we finished
- 23 up with this, we were literally shutting down our network. So some

- 1 of things that we recommended that -- to get done never quite came to
- 2 fruition, because we were literally on the way of transitioning out
- 3 of Iraq. I mean, we were shutting down and we were doing a battle
- 4 handover to another brigade combat team. So some of the things that,
- 5 you know, didn't get fully implemented. Again, I can't recall which
- 6 did or did not, but essent -- they became moot points because the
- 7 brigade was essentially no longer there. So the brigade was in a
- 8 status of having three quarters of it moving back to Iraq while a few
- 9 of us were still remaining there.
- 10 Q. When did the -- and maybe this will help the court, sir,
- Manning was arrested in late May of 2010?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- Q. And when was the planning beginning to relocate the brigade
- 14 from the ----
- A. Well the planning had already been completed at that point.
- 16 We were -- execution mode began in June. So ex -- in June we began
- 17 -- it wasn't a typical redeployment of brigade combat teams.
- 18 Typically brigade combat teams kind of come and go as full units. In
- 19 this situation we were in the process of withdrawing battalions at a
- 20 time. So we were kind of doing a staggered approach because there
- 21 were some manning limitations within the brigade that we had to get
- 22 to. So we were some caps for personnel strengths. So we were
- 23 steadily moving troops out starting as early as June.

- 1 Q. And sir, in terms of physical security in a SCIF, in your
- 2 experience, would it be feasible in a combat environment to pat every
- 3 Soldier down who leaves the SCIF?
- A. No, it's not. To me, you know, if you have access to a
- 5 SIPR computer, you know, you're always going to have the ability --
- 6 because it is not feasible to check every single person leaving the
- 7 SCIF or -- you know, it honestly doesn't matter. Because we use the
- 8 term, "SCIF," but SIPR computers are everywhere, they're not just in
- 9 SCIFs. SIPR computers are located everywhere around and are at from
- 10 the company level CP all the way up to the battalion CPs, so, you
- 11 know, when I -- SIPR connections ----
- 12 Q. CPs, meaning command posts, sir?
- 13 A. Command posts, yes. So our SIPR, secure internet
- 14 connections -- you know, the SCIFs had more compartmentalized
- 15 information in them, but the average -- you know, our average TOC, I
- 16 mean, the idea of trying to check every single Soldier to see if they
- 17 have unauthorized, you know, stuff coming off of them, to me in my
- 18 opinion would be completely unfeasible in a combat environment. We
- 19 rely on the fact that we have to trust our subordinates to do the
- 20 right things because we can't control information in that manner.
- 21 And that's kind of what I told the 15-6, they never wrote anything
- 22 about it in there, but I told them that all of the actions that we

- 1 took and would've probably had very little impact on what happened in
- 2 the Iraq.
- 3 Q. And, sir, I want to sort of finish by talking about the
- 4 word, "Ideally." When you use the word, "Ideally," in your letter of
- 5 reprimand rebuttal, was that because -- I mean, ideally, none of this
- 6 would have happened. I mean, is that essentially your point there?
- 7 A. Yeah. Ideal ----
- 9 MJ: Yes?
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Argumentative and also mischaracterization of
- 11 when he used that word, "Ideally." So it's within the Lima-Lima-Lima
- 12 it's in reference to Major Clausen and Master Sergeant Adkins.
- 13 MJ: It's in refer -- I remember the evidence. Why did you use
- 14 the term, "Ideally?"
- 15 WIT: Because I would have, ideally, liked to have had a
- 16 stronger team going forward into Iraq. I would have liked to have
- 17 had a stronger team. And so that's why -- you know, ideally, in the
- 18 Army we'd have everything we need right when we need it, but that's
- 19 just not the Army. In the Army we have the assets and resources that
- 20 we have and, you know, we're told to accomplish our mission with the
- 21 with assets and resources that you have, and that's what we do. And
- 22 so ideally, I would have had brand new weapons. Ideally, I would
- 23 have had all of these different things out there, but we don't get

- 1 what we ideally want, we have to manage what we have. So ideally,
- 2 would've I had a different OIC and NCOIC in the shop? You know,
- 3 that's an accurate statement, ideally I would have. But it doesn't
- 4 mean that they, as I kind of stated before, it doesn't mean that they
- 5 weren't qualified for the positions that they were in.
- 6 Questions continued by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- 7 Q. But it was a essentially a backward looking?
- 8 A. Absolutely. I mean, at the time, you know, at the time
- 9 leaving forward, we knew we had some challenges within that shop. We
- 10 -- you know, myself and Colonel Miller and other leadership within
- 11 the brigade had some very long discussions about where we should go.
- 12 So this wasn't like a haphazard kind of, "Okay. We don't know what
- 13 we've got there." We understood, you know, some of the ramifications
- 14 of not having the ideal team in there and we decided -- you know, we
- 15 moved forward know that or thinking that that team was sufficient to
- 16 accomplish the mission in Iraq. So we thought that they were
- 17 sufficient to the duties they had, at the time. You know, again,
- 18 looking back after something like this happens, you know, hindsight's
- 19 going to lead you to say, "I wish I had done this differently and I
- 20 wish hadn't." I think that we were prudent in the decisions that we
- 21 made. We were very judicious in how we were making those decisions.
- 22 You know, we were looking at the needs of the unit versus the needs
- 23 of the individuals based on what we had available to us. And at the

- 1 time we made a decision, which I think was -- you know, I think it --
- 2 well, I think was the right decision, you know, at the time to move
- 3 forward with the individuals that we had. Because we didn't have
- 4 anything better at the time that we could turn to. So we thought
- 5 that it was the right decision. I, you know, we -- it's been a long
- 6 time, but Colonel Miller and I had a lot of discussions about that
- 7 and we were, you know, we were trying to do the right things for the
- 8 unit and right things for the individuals involved there as well.
- 9 Q. Yes, sir. And when the decision was made to remove Major
- 10 Clausen, were you part of the decision to replace him with Captain
- 11 Lim?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And, sir, what are your impressions of Captain Lim?
- 14 A. Captain Lim, you know, there's no the doubt that Captain
- 15 Lim was one of the best Military Intelligence Officers I ever served
- 16 with. I knew Captain Lim. Again, I had served with Captain Lim in
- 17 2006 and 7 in Iraq before. And long before this process started it
- 18 was we knew that he was going to be the guy that we put in there. I
- 19 had extreme confidence in him. I still do to this day, regardless of
- 20 what the investigation says, I would stand on that decision a hundred
- 21 times over. He's a fantastic officer. You know, he is -- you know,
- 22 if I were serving someplace that's the guy I would want to work for.
- 23 I have nothing but confidence and respect for Captain Steve Lim.

- Q. And that was true at the time, sir?
- 2 A. Absolutely.
- Q. Thank you, sir.

4 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

5 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:

- 6 Q. Sir, just a couple brief clarifications.
- 7 A. Sure.
- 8 Q. With regards to Master Sergeant Adkins and Major Clausen,
- 9 was your determination of them a weak leader, was that a belief you
- 10 had before the deployment or was that a belief you had after the 15-6
- 11 investigation?
- 12 A. I did not -- you know, in using the term, "Weak," you know,
- 13 I would've -- I did not feel they were the strongest leaders before
- 14 the deployment as well. I understood that they had weaknesses within
- 15 their capabilities. So, you know, again, you know, I'm kind of
- 16 hesitant using the term, "Weak leader," seems to -- for me it's --
- 17 calling somebody, "A weak leader," means a lot. And so I -- they had
- 18 weaknesses within their performance and within their capabilities
- 19 that I felt were evident. You know, kind of, I've said it a bunch of
- 20 times -- you know, that yes. But I've got weaknesses too, so, you
- 21 know, a lot of us do. You know, and did it -- so yes, I felt there
- 22 were some weaknesses there that were more significant than maybe in
- 23 some of the other staff members.

- 1 Q. And with regards to a single event being the basis for a
- 2 DEROG, did I understand you correctly that you could have an
- 3 egregious enough event that would be a single event that would cause
- 4 a DEROG?
- 5 A. Well, sure. A single -- you know, I mean, yes, a single
- 6 event could cause a DEROG, absolutely. You know, something like a
- 7 DUI or something like that, you know, or a drug use, something like
- 8 that, that would absolutely be grounds. But like everything in the
- 9 Army, it's always going to become, you know, mission dependent. You
- 10 know, you're going to look at every situation and make
- 11 determinations. You know, there's going to be some judgment that's
- 12 made there.
- 13 Q. And even though maybe junior enlisted issues don't get up
- 14 to your level, as an XO level, could a serious enough event get to
- 15 your level as an XO?
- A. Sure. I mean, a serious enough event could be elevated to
- 17 me. You know, I have kind of two roles. One is, I'm a filter for
- 18 information to the Commander and two, I have the need to understand
- 19 what's happening with the brigade staff because anything that impacts
- 20 the brigade staff impacts the brigade. So, therefore, I have to kind
- 21 of know what's going on with that. So yes, I mean, absolutely, you
- 22 know, a serious event would come forward and I would have been
- 23 informed of that.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: All right. Thank you.
- 2 MJ: I just have a couple of questions for you.

3 EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL

4 Questions by the military judge:

- 5 Q. I believe earlier in your testimony with respect to Master
- 6 Sergeant Adkins, did you say you had daily interaction with him?
- 7 A. Ma'am, I -- yes, I would say -- you know, in Iraq I would
- 8 probably see him on almost a daily basis, maybe not every day, but I
- 9 would have probably ran across him on a pretty frequent basis there.
- 10 I can't say it's every day, but fairly frequent.
- 11 O. Did he appear to have any memory issues to you?
- 12 A. I never saw anything that would make me think that there
- 13 was something wrong with his intellectual capacity to remember
- 14 something, no, ma'am.
- 15 O. So just to make sure I understand the deployment cycle of
- 16 your brigade, did you begin to deploy in October of 2009 and then you
- 17 started to redeploy in June of 2010?
- 18 A. That's about -- we actually started deploying in September
- 19 of 2009, you know, with the initial, you know, ADVONs and TORCH
- 20 parties, and those types of things. The main body moved in October
- 21 and then we started redeploying, you know, initial folks probably as
- 22 early as June and then redeployed -- probably had everybody back on

- 1 the ground roughly in September of 2010. The redeployment was about
- 2 a 4-month process.
- 3 MJ: Anything follow up based on that?
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 5 ATC[CPT MORROW]: No, Your Honor.
- 6 MJ: All right.
- 7 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 8 the courtroom.]
- 9 MJ: In looking at the time and the amount of witnesses we have
- 10 left for today, what do you believe is the best approach?
- 11 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Just if we could come back by 1330, Your
- 12 Honor.
- 13 MJ: All right. Any objection to that?
- 14 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am. 30 after?
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yeah.
- 16 MJ: 1330. All right. Anything else we need to address before
- 17 we recess the court?
- 18 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 19 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am.
- 20 MJ: Court is in recess until 1330.
- 21 [The court-martial recessed at 1237, 12 August 2013.]
- 22 [The court-martial was called to order at 1332, 12 August 2013.]

- 1 MJ: Please be seated. Court is called to order. Let the
- 2 record reflect all parties present when the court last recessed are
- 3 again present in court.
- 4 Mr. Coombs?
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense calls Major
- 6 Elijah Dreher to the stand.
- 7 MAJOR ELIJAH DREHER, U.S. Army, was called as a witness for the
- 8 defense, was sworn, and testified as follows:
- 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 10 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 11 Q. I want to start off by asking you what your duty position
- 12 was in the 2009/2010 time frame. Okay?
- 13 A. HHC, Brigade, Company Commander.
- 14 Q. And when did you become the Company Commander for HHC, 2nd
- 15 Brigade?
- 16 A. April 2009.
- 17 Q. How many Soldiers did you have in -- basically within your
- 18 company command?
- 19 A. Are you ----
- 20 Q. In general. I understand you have support just a ----
- 21 A. For -- in Iraq we were over about 275.

- Q. And I want to ask you a few questions about the brigade's
- 2 guidance to you regarding which members would and would not deploy,
- 3 okay? Is that okay?
- A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Now, with regards to the guidance that you received, what
- 6 guidance were you told with regards to who would and would not
- 7 deploy.
- 8 A. I really wasn't given any guidance. Command did ----
- 9 Q. Do you recall giving a sworn statement where you said the
- 10 guidance that you received was that, "Everyone would deploy unless
- 11 extenuating circumstances?"
- 12 A. Yes. But, you know, but not ----
- 13 Q. Did you receive that guidance?
- 14 A. I did, but ----
- 15 Q. And was there any pressure from your higher leadership with
- 16 regards to who should and should not deploy? In other words, did
- 17 your higher leadership put pressure on you to deploy people ----
- 18 A. That wasn't ----
- 19 O. ---- that shouldn't deploy?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. So if you wanted to leave somebody back that you believed
- 22 shouldn't deploy, what did you need to do?
- 23 A. I need to convey that.

- 1 Q. And how so?
- A. To speak to the command.
- 3 Q. Can you explain how you would do that?
- 4 A. I would approach the Battalion Commander.
- 5 O. And ----
- A. Say, "Hey, sir, given the situation, don't recommend we
- 7 take this person."
- 8 Q. Did you make any such recommendations regarding anybody in
- 9 your company?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. What was your understanding of -- in addition to your
- 12 recommendation, what you needed to have with regards to a Soldier
- 13 that would or would not deploy?
- 14 A. Well if, if I was going to recommend a Soldier wasn't going
- 15 to deploy, I would make sure that I had adequate documentation to
- 16 show the reason behind why they shouldn't deploy.
- 17 Q. And what would that be in your mind?
- 18 A. Be it medical, be it psychological, be it family issue. So
- 19 documentation just to -- for the reasoning.
- 20 Q. And prior to deployment, how much interaction did you have
- 21 with your S-2, Major Clausen?
- 22 A. None.
- Q. And why was that?

- A. Very -- the staff I was a Company Commander, I didn't -- we
- 2 didn't run in the same circles. My job didn't have me interact with
- 3 him on daily basis. Our location was separate from the Brigade
- 4 Headquarters location, so --
- 5 Q. And how much interaction did you have with the S-2, NCOIC,
- 6 Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 7 A. Minimal. Didn't see him -- I mean, prior to deployment,
- 8 didn't see him but at formation maybe.
- 9 Q. Did Major Clausen ever make a recommendation to you
- 10 regarding PFC Manning and whether or not he should deploy?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Did Master Sergeant Adkins ever make a recommendation to
- 13 you regarding PFC Manning ----
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. ---- and whether or not he should deploy?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Did anyone ever make any recommendation to you ----
- 18 A. No.
- 19 O. --- regarding PFC Manning?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Do you know if there was any pressure placed upon your S-2
- 22 section to take a Soldier that shouldn't deploy?
- 23 A. Not that I'm aware of.

- 1 O. Did your S-2 section have a manpower issue, as far as the
- 2 numbers that they needed?
- 3 A. My understanding, they had the numbers that they needed.
- 4 O. Could the S-2 have deployed, with regards to numbers,
- 5 without PFC Manning?
- 6 A. I can't make that dec -- I couldn't say yes or no to that.
- 7 Q. So when you said, "They had the numbers," did you have any
- 8 idea of what they're deployment strength was?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Had Major Clausen or Master Sergeant Adkins raised a
- 11 concern to you, as the Company Commander, regarding whether or PFC
- 12 Manning should deploy, how would that have been handled?
- 13 A. I would take -- I would address that with the Battalion
- 14 Commander. Go to the Battalion Commander, give him the circumstances
- 15 and explain it to him.
- 16 Q. And I want to ask you a few questions about what you knew
- 17 about PFC Manning prior to the deployment, okay? And you need to
- 18 verbalize a response to me.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Did you ever receive any reports regarding any disciplinary
- 21 problems with PFC Manning prior to the deployment?
- 22 A. No.

- 1 O. Were you aware of any behavioral problems with PFC Manning
- 2 prior to the deployment?
- A. No.
- 4 Q. I want to ask you a few questions now about what you knew
- 5 during the deployment, okay?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. When was the first time you became aware of any behavioral
- 8 issues with PFC Manning during the deployment?
- 9 A. January?
- 10 Q. And what were you made aware of?
- 11 A. That there had been an incident in the S-2 shop.
- 12 Q. And can you specifically tell me what you were informed
- 13 about?
- 14 A. The confrontation between him, I think, and Specialist
- 15 Showman.
- 16 Q. Were you aware of any incident between PFC Manning and
- 17 Specialist Padgett?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Were you ever informed of an incident in which PFC Manning
- 20 flipped over a table during a counseling session?
- 21 A. It's -- I really can't remember. I mean, the incident I
- 22 remember is the incident of the issue with Showman. I mean, and they

- 1 -- given this time, an extended period of time since this all
- 2 occurred, a lot of it is blurred together. So I can't --
- Q. All right. So I'm just going to throw some facts to you
- 4 and see if you recall these facts, if that jogs your memory, okay?
- 5 Were you ever informed of an incident in which PFC Manning had to be
- 6 restrained during a counseling session?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Were you ever informed of a incident where PFC Manning,
- 9 during that counseling session, reached for a weapon from a weapons
- 10 rack?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. And I saw from your reaction there -- would that be
- 13 something you would expect to be informed of?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 0. And why is that?
- 16 A. Because that's not something you allow to happen. Without
- 17 any recourse.
- 18 Q. If you had -- well actually, did Master Sergeant Adkins
- 19 ever share a memorandum for record that he wrote on 21 December 2009
- 20 with you?
- 21 A. Not that I recall, no.

- 1 O. I'm handing you what is Defense Exhibit XX. I ask you just
- 2 to look at that for a moment and please read it silently to yourself.
- 3 When you're done just look up at me.
- 4 [The witness did as directed.]
- 5 O. Have you ever seen this memorandum before?
- 6 A. Not that I recall.
- 7 Q. The information that's contained in the memorandum, were
- 8 you ever informed of any of that?
- 9 A. I know that the bolt was removed from his weapon, I
- 10 remember that.
- 11 Q. Other than that, any of the other facts that are contained
- 12 in that memorandum?
- A. No.
- 14 Q. Is this the type of information that you should be made
- 15 aware of as a company commander?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 O. And why is that?
- 18 A. So then you can help to make an assessment and inform your
- 19 superior.
- 20 O. Am I correct, as far as a -- well actually, before I ask
- 21 that question, this memorandum -- was Master Sergeant Adkins somebody
- 22 who you dealt with more during the deployment, as opposed to prior
- 23 deployment?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Did you ever notice during the deployment if Master
- 3 Sergeant Adkins had any memory problems?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Did you ever notice if Master Sergeant Adkins during the
- 6 deployment ever had any problems conveying information?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. The time that you were the Commander, did you understand
- 9 how to initiate a DEROG?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And based upon your understanding, in general, by
- 12 regulation, when should a DEROG be initiated against a Soldier with a
- 13 security clearance?
- 14 A. Well, when there's an issue that comes to light that meets
- 15 the criteria.
- 16 Q. With regards to PFC Manning do you believe that you were
- 17 given adequate information to make decisions about whether or not
- 18 DEROG should be initiated?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. And why not?
- 21 A. I don't -- the information wasn't shared with me.

- Q. And now I want to ask you a few questions about your interaction with PFC Manning when you flew back together for mid-tour leave, okay?

 A. Yes.

 Q. During that flight did you have a chance to speak with PFC
- 6 Manning?

I spoke with PFC Manning at -- in Baghdad, at the airport.

- 8 O. And how long did the two of you talk?
- 9 A. Maybe 20 minutes.
- 10 Q. And in general, what kind of topics did you discuss?
- 11 A. He spoke me and referenced his desire to possibly look at
- 12 the Green to Gold program.
- Q. And that's to go from enlisted to officer?
- 14 A. Yes.

Α.

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- 15 O. And any other topics, in general?
- 16 A. That he wanted to go to school. He wanted to go to
- 17 college.
- 18 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Retrieving from you Defense Exhibit XX.
- 19 I have no further questions, Thank you.
- 20 MJ: Cross?
- 21 [END OF PAGE]

CROSS-EXAMINATION

- Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- One second, sir.
- 4 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 5 table.]

1

- 6 Sir, you wouldn't necessarily expect to have interaction
- 7 with Master Sergeant Adkins or Major Clausen unless there were some
- 8 kind of issues in the shop?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. So it wasn't necessarily -- you know, you weren't required
- 11 as a Company Commander to check in them every day and they weren't
- 12 required to check in with you every day, it was only if issues that
- 13 needed your attention were brought to light, essentially?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 O. And how long have you been in the Army, sir?
- 16 A. I came into the Army in 1992.
- 17 Q. And have you ever had a Soldier with an anger management
- 18 issue?
- 19 A. No, not an anger management issue.
- 20 O. Have you observed other Soldiers who have gotten angry at
- 21 their superiors?
- 22 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Is that necessarily something that leads to the initiation
- 2 of an adverse action?
- A. Not necessarily, no.
- 4 Q. And why not, sir?
- 5 A. A lot of times that's left to the NCOs to address that
- 6 issue, to come up with some type of corrective training.
- 7 Q. So corrective training short of, like, an Article 15 or a
- 8 DEROG?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q. And, sir, you mentioned you were sort of in the -- you went
- 11 home on mid-tour leave the same time as PFC Manning?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And you guys talked about college?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. Education, potentially going Green to Gold?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 O. Did anything strike you as, you know, weird about PFC
- 18 Manning?
- 19 A. I did -- it was kind of interesting trying to understand
- 20 where he was coming from. I mean, I really had not had a
- 21 conversation with him previous to that.
- 22 O. But it was normally -- it was, otherwise, a conversation
- 23 that you might have with any other Soldier in your ----

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. One moment.
- 3 Sir, just in terms of time period, you left command in
- 4 April of 2010?
- A. On paper, yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And Captain Freeburg took over for you?
- A. Yes.
- 8 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Thank you, sir.
- 9 MJ: Redirect?
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 11 EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL
- 12 Questions by the military judge:
- 13 Q. What do you mean, "on paper?"
- 14 A. Ma'am, I was assuming another role as we were going through
- 15 a change in command, inventories.
- 16 Q. So is that when -- so did you -- did your duties as
- 17 Commander of HHC end in April of 2010?
- 18 A. I was working as the CHOPS as well as the Company
- 19 Commander.
- Q. Let me be a little more clear. When did your duties end as
- 21 the Company Commander?
- 22 A. In April.

- 1 Q. In April of 2010? So, really -- in reality as well as on
- 2 paper?
- 3 A. I wasn't available, given the job that I was doing, to be a
- 4 Company Commander.
- 5 O. When did that start?
- 6 A. That's the end of February, beginning of March.
- 7 Q. And to the best of your recollection, do you remember when
- 8 PFC Manning's bolt was taken from his weapon?
- 9 A. I do not know.
- 10 MJ: Any follow up based on that?
- 11 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 12 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Just one moment, Your Honor.
- 13 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 14 table.]
- 15 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Just briefly, Your Honor.
- 16 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
- 17 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- 18 Q. Sir, when you were doing, sir, dual duty as the CHOPS and
- 19 then also as the Company Commander?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. You were still -- people still come to you in terms of
- 22 administrative actions for the company; is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.

- 1 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Thank you.
- MJ: All right.
- 3 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 4 the courtroom.]
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, the defense calls Major Clifford
- 6 Clausen.
- 7 MAJOR (RETIRED) CLIFFORD CLAUSEN, U.S. Army, was called as a witness
- 8 for the defense, was sworn, and testified as follows:
- 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 10 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 11 Q. Were you ever the Brigade S-2 for the 2nd Brigade Combat
- 12 Team?
- 13 A. I was the 2nd Brigade S-2 from January of 2009 to December
- 14 of 2009.
- 15 O. And, currently, are you still in the service?
- 16 A. I am retired now.
- 17 Q. And when did you retire?
- 18 A. I retired 1 February.
- 19 Q. Now I want to ask you a few questions about the brigade's
- 20 guidance to you for selecting those members of the brigade that you
- 21 would take forward with you on deployment, okay?
- A. Yes.

- 1 O. Now, what quidance was given to you by the brigade
- 2 regarding selecting those members who would not deploy?
- 3 A. I don't remember specific. You know, just the normal
- 4 reasons to remain behind and you'd leave them behind so --
- 5 O. Was there any pressure from higher leadership to deploy
- 6 members of your section in order to meet strength?
- 7 A. We were having a problem meeting strength. There's
- 8 pressure on the whole unit to deploy to -- so we can provide the best
- 9 intelligence possible. But, I do not remember specifics.
- 10 Q. And within your S-2 section, were you under strength or did
- 11 you have adequate ----
- 12 A. We were understrength.
- 13 Q. How understrength were you?
- 14 A. It was about a third, roughly, between everything I can
- 15 remember.
- 16 Q. What percentage of strength did -- from your memory, did
- 17 you need to have in order to deploy?
- 18 A. It would have taken about a third just to meet the bare
- 19 minimum requirements.
- 20 O. And with regard ----
- 21 MJ: I'm sorry, it would take a third of your -- the strength?
- 22 WIT: Of a normal intel, ma'am.
- 23 MJ: Okay. Thank you.

1 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:

- Q. If you wanted to leave someone back in the rear either due
- 3 to a performance issue or just believing they shouldn't deploy, what
- 4 did you need to do, from your understanding?
- 5 A. Talk to the chain of command and inform them of the reason
- 6 and then, you know, they, you know, they'd be put on the stay back
- 7 roster.
- 8 Q. Who was the approval authority for that?
- 9 A. I don't remember.
- 10 Q. Did you ever make a request to leave somebody behind?
- 11 A. We left one NCO behind because of medical problems. He had
- 12 a heart attack or -- I think it was a heart attack, so --
- 13 O. Did Master Adkins ever make recommendation to you
- 14 concerning not deploying PFC Manning?
- 15 A. No. Not that I remember, no.
- 16 Q. Did Master Sergeant Adkins ever make a recommendation to
- 17 you regarding any Soldier, whether or not they should deploy?
- 18 A. The one NCO for medical reasons.
- 19 O. Did CW2 Ehresman ever make a recommendation to you not to
- 20 deploy PFC Manning?
- 21 A. Not that I remember.
- 22 Q. Did anyone within the S-2 section ever make a
- 23 recommendation regarding whether or not PFC Manning should deploy?

- A. Not that I remember.
- 2 Q. And had anyone in your section, whether that be Chief
- 3 Ehresman, Master Sergeant Adkins or somebody else made such a
- 4 recommendation, how would you have handled that?
- 5 A. You take in all the information that you receive to make a
- 6 determination. Then you have to break out whatever regulations would
- 7 pertain to for that reason to stay back and, you know, get into the
- 8 detail to see does it meet regulation or not.
- 9 Q. From your perspective, was PFC Manning deployed due to a
- 10 manpower issue?
- 11 A. PFC Manning was deployed because we were deploying.
- 12 O. So could you have operated without PFC Manning?
- 13 A. You can always do more with less, but there's no reason to
- 14 not operate with Manning.
- Q. All right. So if I understand you correctly, then, PFC
- 16 Manning could have been left behind if that was the determination,
- 17 that he wasn't needed for manpower issues; is that correct?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. Now, I want to ask you a few questions what you knew
- 20 regarding PFC Manning prior to the deployment, okay?
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. Did you ever receive any reports regarding any behavioral
- 23 problems with PFC Manning prior to the deployment?

- 1 A. Sergeant Adkins and -- had briefed me on the anger issue at
- 2 JRTC and that he was self-referred once. That's before the
- 3 deployment, what I remember.
- 4 Q. All right. So let's cover those in turn. What do you
- 5 recall from the issue at JRTC?
- 6 A. He got mad and displayed a violent tendency. You know, I
- 7 don't remember exactly any description of the violence, but -- and
- 8 that then he was counseled and -- that's about what I remember.
- 9 Q. And from that memory, was counseling the only thing that
- 10 was done or was there anything else done after that incident?
- 11 A. I don't remember in a timeline with, you know, his self-
- 12 referral or which came first. I don't remember the order.
- 13 Q. So let's go with the second incident that you said self-
- 14 referral. Why was that done?
- 15 A. I thought because Manning wanted to get help for his
- 16 issues.
- 17 O. And were you ever briefed on what the result was of the
- 18 self-referral?
- 19 A. No, other than normal continued duty type, you know,
- 20 feedbacks, that Manning went and saw a psychiatrist. Whatever they
- 21 said between those doors were between them, but no reason to not
- 22 continue duty.

- 1 Q. And at the time that this was happening, did Master
- 2 Sergeant Adkins make the recommendation to allow PFC Manning to self-
- 3 referral or did he make a recommendation regarding a command
- 4 referral?
- A. I don't remember.
- 6 Q. Was there ever any discussion from your position of doing a
- 7 command referral or at least recommending to the Company Commander to
- 8 do a command referral?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Do you understand the differences between a command
- 11 referral and a self-referral?
- 12 A. In generality.
- 13 Q. What -- in general, what do you understand the difference
- 14 to be?
- 15 A. Self-referral is taken by the Soldier to try to seek help
- 16 for themselves. Command referral is the Soldier does not seem to
- 17 want to take help for themselves and then you give them the
- 18 opportunity to get that help.
- 19 Q. And is your memory also the difference involving the amount
- 20 of information that command gets regarding what happens?
- 21 A. I don't remember the reg on what comes back exactly with
- 22 it. I don't remember.

- 1 O. So just, so I understand you correctly then, you don't
- 2 understand there to be a difference between how much information is
- 3 shared back with the command if it's a self-referral as opposed to a
- 4 command referral?
- 5 A. Correct, I do not remember.
- 6 Q. And when we talk about command referral, who would be the
- 7 individual making that determination?
- 8 A. Should be anyone in his chain in command. Most likely the
- 9 Company Commander.
- 10 Q. And do I understand you correctly that you don't recall
- 11 Master Sergeant Adkins ever reporting back to you what happened after
- 12 PFC Manning went for self-referral?
- 13 A. Well, the fact that he went for self-referral and that
- 14 nothing was reported back to the chain of command to indicate
- 15 anything other than continued duty, so ----
- 16 O. Prior to the deployment, did you ever discussion any of PFC
- 17 Manning's problems that you were aware of with the Company Commander?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 O. And why not?
- 20 A. Because they were being handled by Master Sergeant Adkins.
- 21 He had briefed me, so he was briefing the Company Commander on
- 22 whatever he thought was appropriate and I was letting the
- 23 administrative company command chain take that.

- 1 Q. Do you recall saying that you did not take issues to the
- 2 Company Commander because you didn't take too many issues outside of
- 3 the S-2 shop?
- 4 A. I did say that. And what I meant is you don't take issues
- 5 outside of your little staff section unless you need to and the
- 6 information was already flowing. So there was no reason for me to go
- 7 straight over to the Company Commander if the information was already
- 8 going.
- 9 Q. And when you say that, I want to make sure I understand you
- 10 correctly, are you saying the information was already going to the
- 11 Company Commander or the information was already going up to you
- 12 within the S-2 shop.
- 13 A. Up to the Company Commander. When I was being told that
- 14 Manning was self-referred, was also told to the Company Commander.
- 15 Q. And who do you understand to have reported that to the
- 16 Company Commander?
- 17 A. I believe it was Sergeant Adkins. I did not double-check,
- 18 though, I just ----
- 19 Q. And can you tell me why you believe that to be true?
- 20 A. Because I have no reason not to.
- 21 Q. No, I know, I'm just wondering was something that was told
- 22 to you by Master Sergeant Adkins or did you find out that fact in
- 23 some other manner?

- 1 A. I don't remember exactly how I found out.
- Q. But that's your understanding now?
- A. That's my understanding, yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. I now want to ask you a few questions about what you
- 5 knew during the deployment, okay?
- 6 A. Okay.
- Q. When was the first time you were made aware of any
- 8 behavioral health issues or behavioral issues with PFC Manning during
- 9 the deployment?
- 10 A. In general, not getting along with people. Maybe -- I
- 11 don't remember time line, but just general, you know, Sergeant Adkins
- 12 saying, you know, "Still having a problem getting along with people,"
- 13 and then the next thing I do remember is that he was, you know,
- 14 command referred.
- 15 Q. Do you recall PFC Manning having an outburst in the T-SCIF
- 16 on 12 December 2009, involving Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 17 A. The specifics, no.
- 18 O. Do you recall that incident, though?
- 19 A. That's probably what caused the command referral. I don't
- 20 remember the time line.
- 21 O. Do you recall anything about how you found out about that?
- 22 A. Master Sergeant Adkins would have told me.

- 1 Q. Do you recall being informed about an incident on 20
- 2 December 2009, where PFC Manning had an outburst involving Specialist
- 3 Padgett?
- 4 A. Not in specific.
- 5 Q. Do you recall that incident, though?
- 6 A. Not at this time.
- 7 Q. With regards to -- and I'll ask you a few facts to see if
- 8 that jogs your memory and you tell me whether or not it does. Do you
- 9 recall Master Sergeant Adkins or anyone else informing you of PFC
- 10 Manning flipping a table during a counseling statement with
- 11 Specialist Padgett?
- 12 A. I remember something about a table flip.
- 13 Q. Do you recall anyone informing you that PFC Manning, others
- 14 believed, reached for a weapon during the counseling?
- 15 A. I don't recall.
- 16 Q. You don't recall that happening?
- 17 A. I don't recall that bit of information, no.
- 18 O. Do you recall being informed that CW2 Ehresman had to
- 19 restrain PFC Manning and pull him out of the T-SCIF at this incident?
- 20 A. I don't recall. I don't recall.
- 21 Q. Would this be information that you would expect to have
- 22 been briefed on as the S-2?
- 23 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And why is that?
- A. Just information pertaining to the section, general
- 3 operating procedure, you know, general operating environment so that
- 4 I could make sure that the work was being done.
- 5 Q. The time that you were the S-2, did you understand what a
- 6 DEROG was?
- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And what is your understanding?
- 9 A. DEROG is a derogatory report filed when the command thinks
- 10 it's time.
- 11 Q. And who can initiate a DEROG under your understanding?
- 12 A. The chain of command.
- 13 Q. With regards to the incident in 20 December 2009, do you
- 14 believe that a DEROG, at least notifying the command of this
- 15 incident, if it involved a Soldier reaching for a weapon during a
- 16 counseling statement, would be something that you would inform the
- 17 chain of command of?
- 18 A. Too many ifs there, say again.
- 19 Q. If you were -- and I know you're saying your memory now,
- 20 you don't recall the incident, but based upon your position as an S-
- 21 2, if you were informed that a Soldier during a counseling session
- 22 reached for a weapon and had to be restrained, would this be

- 1 something that you would inform the Company Commander of and have the
- 2 Company Commander determine if the DEROG would be appropriate?
- A. Sav it again.
- 4 Q. Sure. So if you, as the S-2, Master Sergeant Adkins comes
- 5 to you and says, "Sir, one of our Soldiers during a counseling
- 6 session flipped a table, reached for a weapon, had to be restrained
- 7 by another Soldier and dragged out of the T-SCIF?"
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. You're informed of that. Your position as an S-2, would
- 10 that be something that you would inform the Company Commander of in
- 11 order to determine whether or not a DEROG would be appropriate?
- 12 A. If I did not think that Sergeant Adkins or somebody else
- 13 had informed.
- 14 Q. Okay. And why would that be the case, that you would want
- 15 to inform the Company Commander?
- 16 A. So he had full understanding of what was going on within
- 17 the personnel in his company.
- 18 Q. I'm showing you what's been marked or what is Defense
- 19 Exhibit XX. Have you ever seen that document before?
- 20 A. To give you a proper answer, I'm just reading, sir.
- 21 O. Sure, go ahead.
- 22 MJ: While he's reading that, Mr. Coombs, have I admitted that?
- 23 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: You have, Your Honor.

- 1 [There was a pause while the witness examined the document.]
- 2 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 3 A. I do not remember receiving this memo.
- 4 Q. Do you ever remember seeing that memo before?
- 5 A. I do not remember seeing the memo.
- 6 Q. And you took the time, I guess, to read the memo; is that
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Yes, I did.
- 9 Q. Is this the type of information that you would expect to be
- 10 informed of as the S-2?
- 11 A. Yes, I remember something about a little bit of altercation
- 12 with the key that's mentioned in it.
- 13 Q. But with regards to the information that's contained in
- 14 Defense Exhibit XX, is that the type of information you would expect
- 15 to have reported to you?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And why is that?
- 18 A. Because it provides understanding of the personnel.
- 19 O. And is that the type of information you would expect to
- 20 share with the Company Commander?
- 21 A. That I would expect the Company Commander to have access to
- 22 also.
- 23 O. And why is that?

- 1 A. Because it provides understanding of the personnel under
- 2 his command.
- 3 Q. Would it also provide understanding whether or not DEROG
- 4 should be initiated?
- 5 A. It informs the DEROG decision.
- 6 Q. Now as the S-2 you had overall supervisory responsibility
- 7 of the Soldiers within your section; is that correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You were responsible for the health, welfare, and
- 10 discipline of the personnel in your session?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you allowed Master Sergeant Adkins to take care of all
- 13 the officer and enlisted issues within the S-2 section; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 O. Master Sergeant Adkins had a supervisory scheme that
- 17 involved officer and enlisted members and you supported his scheme;
- 18 is that correct?
- 19 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Your Honor?
- 20 M.J. Yes?
- 21 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Objection. Leading.
- 22 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: It's not leading, I'm asking him ----

- MJ: You're asking him a leading question. So what's your ----
- 2 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Did Master Sergeant Adkins ----
- 3 MJ: --- response to the leading?
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'll rephrase it, ma'am.
- 5 MJ: Okay.
- 6 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 7 Q. Did Master Adkins have a supervisory scheme within the S-2
- 8 section?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Did you support that supervisory scheme?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. So why did you support Master Sergeant Adkins' supervisory
- 13 scheme?
- 14 A. Because the command is command and NCOs run the unit.
- 15 Q. Do you recall anyone coming to you -- well actually, do you
- 16 recall Chief Ehresman coming to you to complain about Master Sergeant
- 17 Adkins' supervisory scheme?
- 18 A. I don't remember any specific complaints from a person.
- 19 Q. So that's a no to Chief Ehresman?
- 20 A. I do not recall any specific complaints. I know people
- 21 complained. I would have been worried if people don't complain.

- 1 Q. Well that -- I -- and listen to my question. I'm asking a
- 2 specific person. Do you recall Chief Ehresman coming to you to
- 3 complain about the supervisory scheme of Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 4 A. I do not recall in specific, no.
- 5 Q. Do you recall Chief Ehresman ever coming to you to speak to
- $\mathbf{6}$ you on multiple occasions to determine whether or not you wanted him
- 7 involved in Soldier leadership and disciplinary decisions?
- 8 A. I remember various discussions with Chief Ehresman and that
- 9 would have been one of the subjects. But do I remember a specific
- 10 time, no.
- 11 Q. What was Chief Ehresman's concern if that was one of the
- 12 subjects?
- 13 A. What I wanted him to do, what his responsibilities were.
- 14 Q. Can you give us what his concern was?
- 15 A. Was he to focus in on analytic or to actually be leading
- 16 the Soldier or doing the admin for the Soldier?
- 17 Q. And from that conversation, did Chief Ehresman ever express
- 18 to you a concern that he wasn't given responsibility for Soldiers?
- 19 A. He wasn't given the responsibilities he used to be used to
- 20 as an NCO, no.
- 21 Q. Did he express that concern to you?
- 22 A. Probably.

- 1 Q. Do you recall Captain Michael Johnson coming to you to
- 2 complain about Master Sergeant Adkins' supervisory scheme?
- A. Not in specific.
- 4 Q. Do you recall telling Captain Johnson, "He needed to stay
- 5 in his lane?"
- 6 A. No, I do not.
- 7 Q. Now the individual that you allowed to do the supervisory
- $8\,$ scheme within the S-2 section was Master Sergeant Adkins; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. I approved it, I mean --
- 11 Q. Did you believe that Master Sergeant Adkins was a below or
- 12 above average leader?
- 13 A. To get at the question, I have said, "He was a bit below
- 14 average," but that's only because he does not display the tendencies
- 15 of a person like that, a Sergeant Major of the 82nd Airborne.
- 16 Q. Do you recall saying you would not assess him as a strong
- 17 NCO2
- 18 A. I did say that and once again, it's my personal take. If
- 19 you don't display the tendencies of an Infantry, then it's just a
- 20 different thing.
- 21 O. When you worked with Master Sergeant Adkins, did you ever
- 22 notice any memory issues on his part?
- 23 A. No.

- 1 Q. Did you ever notice any issues with Master Sergeant Adkins
- 2 having difficulty expressing himself?
- 3 A. He has to sit and think, just like I do, to make sure you
- 4 phrase the information you're trying to send properly.
- 5 Q. But other than, I quess, pausing to contemplate your
- 6 answer, did you ever notice any difficulties on his part of
- 7 expressing information?
- 8 A. By my def, no.
- 9 O. Now, if you felt that Master Sergeant Adkins was a below
- 10 average leader and not a strong NCO, why would you support his
- 11 supervisory scheme in the S-2 section?
- 12 A. Sergeant Adkins was a fine NCO and a fine leader. I have a
- 13 standard that's personal. And when I answered that question I gave
- 14 my personal answer which is, you know, displaying the other things,
- 15 but I have no problems with the way Sergeant Adkins portrayed himself
- 16 or carried himself.
- 17 O. You received a general officer memorandum of reprimand in
- 18 this case, correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. And one of the basis was that despite identifying Master
- 21 Sergeant Adkins as a below average leader, you supported his
- 22 dysfunctional and unclear leadership scheme; is that correct?
- 23 A. That was in the letter, yes.

- Q. And you wrote a rebuttal to that letter?
- 2 A. Yes, I did.
- 3 Q. And that letter was ultimately filed in your performance
- 4 file?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you. I'm retrieving from the witness
- 7 Defense Exhibit XX. No further questions.
- 8 MJ: Cross-examination?
- 9 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Yes, ma'am.

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 11 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT MORROW]:
- 12 Q. Sir, let's start with your letter of reprimand. Your --
- 13 when that letter of reprimand was filed or served on you, you were
- 14 given an opportunity to rebut that; is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes, I was.
- 16 Q. And your chain command provided recommendations on where
- 17 that should be filed?
- 18 A. Yes, they did.
- 19 Q. And your immediate commander recommended that it be filed
- 20 locally?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And your 06 Commander recommended that it be filed locally?
- 23 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And your General Officer recommended that it be filed
- 2 locally; is that correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 O. And that General Officer was who?
- A. General Legere.
- 6 Q. And General Legere is who? What position what does she
- 7 hold now?
- 8 A. She is currently the DA G2.
- 9 Q. She's a D -- Department of the Army G2? And she
- 10 recommended that be filed locally?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q. All right. Sir, let's talk about Master Sergeant Adkins.
- 13 Master Sergeant Adkins had a number of strengths; is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. He was strong in organization?
- 16 A. Definitely.
- 17 Q. Equipment?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. He -- when he would -- had a problem he would come to you
- 20 with a solution?
- 21 A. Yes, exactly.
- 22 Q. He was smart and analytical?
- 23 A. Definitely.

- Q. And he lived the motto, "Mission first, people always?"
- 2 A. Totally. Totally cared about the mission and the people.
- 3 Q. And why do you say that?
- 4 A. Everything he displayed and did led me to believe that. He
- 5 wanted to make sure that the mission was always accomplished, but
- 6 while doing that he always tried his best to take care of the
- 7 Soldiers. Making sure they had the help they needed or whatever they
- 8 needed.
- 9 Q. And how long were -- have you been in the Army, or were you
- 10 in the Army, sir?
- 11 A. I was in the Army 18 years.
- 12 O. And your general mode of operating is that you don't take,
- 13 "Ash and trash." to the command; is that correct?
- 14 A. Exactly right. You don't burden them with things that they
- 15 don't need to effect.
- 16 Q. You take appropriate issues to the chain of command?
- 17 A. Exactly right.
- 18 O. And in some cases anger management issues for a Soldier in
- 19 your section might not necessarily be a reason or an issue that you
- 20 need to take to the chain of command?
- 21 A. Right, especially if it's low lying. You don't take a
- 22 brigade's worth of Soldiers' issues straight to the Brigade
- 23 Commander, so --

- 1 Q. And you may not even necessarily take it to the Company
- 2 Commander if it's being dealt with other ----
- 3 A. Exactly right.
- 4 Q. --- corrective action? Sir, would you ever encourage a
- 5 Soldier not to go seek behavioral health treatment?
- 6 A. No, I would encourage them to seek behavioral health
- 7 treatment or anything that they thought could aid them in their ----
- 8 Q. And why not? Why is it important to encourage Soldiers to
- 9 seek out behavioral health?
- 10 A. Especially since I've been growing up in the MI, it's
- 11 overcoming the stigma that behavioral health has especially within
- 12 MI. You want them to be able to get the help and know that they can
- 13 get the help and you want other Soldiers to see that if you want to
- 14 get help for any issue that you have, that you can. It's vitally
- 15 important point for their health and for the general organization's
- 16 health.
- 17 O. And, sir, that would be true whether the -- it was a self-
- 18 referred trip to behavioral health or whether it was a command
- 19 referred behavioral health?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. You would want to encourage Soldiers to take advantage of
- 22 the ---
- 23 A. Any help ----

- 1 Q. ---- opportunities?
- A. Any help that they can get, yes.
- 3 Q. And, sir, in the mental health context, why is the MI field
- 4 a little bit different than maybe some of the other fields?
- 5 A. Because especially the stigma back in the day is if you saw
- 6 a mental health professional, you lost your ability to have a job.
- 7 Q. And the situation we have today in terms of Soldiers
- 8 seeking treatment if they need it, is that a better system than what
- 9 we had before?
- 10 A. It has definitely improved where you can get help and try
- 11 to get the right help for the right problem.
- 12 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Just one moment, sir.
- 13 Thank you, sir.
- 14 WIT: Thank you.
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No redirect.
- 16 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 17 the courtroom. 1
- 18 M.J: Yes?
- 19 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Your Honor, if we would, can we have a 10-
- 20 minute recess?
- 21 MJ: Any objection?
- 22 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No objection, Your Honor
- MJ: All right. The court is in recess until 1430 or 2:30.

- 1 [The court-martial recessed at 1419, 12 August 2013.]
- 2 [The court-martial was called to order at 1509, 12 August 2013.]
- 3 MJ: Please be seated. Court is called to order. Let the
- 4 record reflect all parties present when the court last recessed are
- 5 again present in court.
- 6 Mr. Coombs, are you ready to proceed?
- 7 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense calls Captain
- 8 Matthew Freeburg.
- 9 CAPTAIN MATTHEW FREEBURG, U.S. Army, was called as a witness for the
- 10 defense, was sworn, and testified as follows:
- 11 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 12 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT von ELTEN]:
- 13 Q. And for the record, you're Captain Matthew Freeburg of the
- 14 30th ADA Brigade?
- 15 A. I am.
- 16 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Thank you.
- 17 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 18 O. Good afternoon, Captain Freeburg. The -- I want to start
- 19 off by talking about when you were the HHC Commander ----
- 20 A. Okav.
- 21 O. --- at 2nd BCT. Okay?
- 22 A. Okay.

- 1 Q. Can you tell the court what time frame you were the HHC
- 2 Commander?
- 3 A. I was Commander from 17 April 2010 to 26 June 2012.
- 4 Q. And when you became the Company Commander, did you receive
- 5 a briefing on personnel and administrative matters from Major Dreher?
- 6 A. I did not.
- 7 Q. And do you know why not?
- 8 A At that time, the focus was not typically personnel and
- 9 those other things that normally go with the handoff between
- 10 outgoing/incoming. We had, like, some major property issues that
- 11 kind of overshadowed everything else at the time. So that is why.
- 12 Q. Okay. And at the time that you took command, were you ever
- 13 told of any behavioral issues with PFC Manning?
- 14 A. Not at the time I took command.
- 15 O. When was the first time that you were made aware of any
- 16 problems involving PFC Manning?
- 17 A. To the best of my knowledge, it was at the time roughly
- 18 early May at the time of the assault on Specialist Showman.
- 19 O. And who briefed you on this incident?
- 20 A. It would have been Master Sergeant Adkins at the time.
- Q. Do you recall Lieutenant Gaab ever talking to you about it?
- 22 A. I want to say, when Master Sergeant Adkins was talking to
- 23 me, I want to say that she did happen to kind of step into the

- 1 conversation as well. I don't -- she was had a very small part in
- 2 the whole conversation between myself and Sergeant Adkins. But I do
- 3 remember that she did, I guess, step in there for a short time.
- 4 Q. And when were you informed of the incident, from your
- 5 memory?
- 6 A. It happened in the early morning. The exact date, I want
- 7 to say 7 May, but before sunrise and then, like, mid-morning, maybe
- 8 8:00, 9:00 is when I was actually informed of the incident.
- 9 Q. And how did you respond to the incident?
- 10 A. Well I was -- I guess I was surprised that any kind of, you
- 11 know, assault would happen just because I knew Specialist Manning at
- 12 the time. Not because I knew his character or anything like that.
- 13 It's just, like, a Soldier on Soldier assault, that kind of -- that's
- 14 not the best thing. So, you know, at that time, Master Sergeant
- 15 Adkins, he did say, "Hey, I don't really think he should working on
- 16 the SCIF anymore because of this incident, can you help us put him
- 17 somewhere else?" And the only thing I can think of at the time was,
- 18 "Okay, well, I don't want to put him in another staff section to
- 19 work. So I'll just go ahead and take him and he can work in my
- 20 company headquarters in the supply room." So that was my response to
- 21 that.
- 22 O. And did you initiate a DEROG based upon this incident?

- A. I don't know if -- I don't think I actually typed it up. I
- 2 want to say Specialist Showman from the S-2 had typed it up and then
- 3 sent it to me and said, "Hey, due to," -- because at the time of the
- 4 incident or the assault, I knew I was going to take some kind of
- 5 UCMJ action on Manning. So I didn't know the steps that I was going
- 6 to have to take as far as, like, what needed to be done as far as a
- 7 DEROG. So I did have -- Specialist Showman did send me -- filled out
- 8 a copy of the DEROG which I didn't really question at the time, okay.
- 9 He's pending UCMJ action, so this is kind of standard procedure. So
- 10 I went ahead and signed it. I gave it back to the S-2 shop for
- 11 processing.
- 12 Q. I'm showing you what has been marked as Defense Exhibit
- 13 Oscar-Oscar-Oscar for Identification. Would you take a look at that
- 14 for a moment and then just look up at me when you're done?
- 15 [The witness did as directed.]
- 16 A. My recommendation.
- 17 Q. Yeah. Do you recognize that?
- 18 A. I do.
- 19 O. And what is it?
- 20 A. It is -- well it appears to me to be the DEROG -- a DEROG
- 21 paperwork.
- Q. Was that the DEROG that you filed for the incident
- 23 involving PFC Manning?

- 1 A. It would have been.
- 2 Q. And is this DEROG in the same condition as it was at the
- 3 time you filled it out other than being a copy, I guess?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving Defense Exhibit, Oscar-Oscar
- $\mathbf{6}$ [sic] for Identification from the witness and offering that this
- 7 exhibit, Oscar-Oscar for Identification into evidence as
- 8 Defense Exhibit Oscar-Oscar-Oscar.
- 9 MJ: Any objection?
- 10 ATC[CPT MORROW]: No, objection.
- 11 MJ: Defense Exhibit Oscar-Oscar-Oscar is admitted.
- 12 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- Q. And at the time that you filled out the DEROG, what was
- 14 your understanding of what that would mean for PFC Manning's security
- 15 clearance or potential?
- 16 A. What I thought it would mean was just, like, exactly what I
- 17 wrote -- written in my Commander's recommendation that we go forward
- 18 and then his security clearance would be temporarily suspended until,
- 19 as they say, "The matter could be adjudicated." So until a
- 20 determination could be made of, okay, "Does he need to keep his
- 21 clearance, does he not." That's about the extent of my -- what I
- 22 knew the DEROG was going to do.

- 1 O. And so tell me if I'm correct the, your understanding
- 2 wasn't that a DEROG would automatically revoke clearance, just that
- 3 it could suspend clearance and then you could make an ultimate
- 4 determination?
- 5 A. That was my understanding at the time.
- 6 Q. Now, after the incident with Specialist Showman, did you
- 7 learn of any other instances involving PFC Manning and S-2 personnel?
- 8 A. Can you repeat the question, sir?
- 9 Q. Yeah. After this incident with Specialist Showman, were
- 10 you informed of any other instances involving PFC Manning and
- 11 personnel within the S-2 section?
- 12 A. Not to my knowledge, sir. Not to my memory. As far as,
- 13 like, I don't think he had any other issues with other people on the
- 14 section. I'm not sure, but ----
- 15 O. Now, you indicated that your memory was that Master
- 16 Sergeant Adkins was the one who came to report this to you this and
- 17 made the recommendation of removing PFC Manning from the SCIF; is
- 18 that correct?
- 19 A. Yeah, to the best of my memory, that's right.
- 20 Q. Is it possible that Lieutenant Gaab was the person who made
- 21 that recommendation to you?
- 22 A. That's a possibility.
- O. I'm showing you what is Defense Exhibit XX.

- A. Yeah.
- 2 O. Defense November-November-November for Identification and
- 3 Defense Exhibit Mike-Mike-Mike for Identification.
- 4 A. Yeah.
- 5 O. I know that's a lot of paperwork, but just without looking
- 6 at the substance right now, can you just kind of look at each one of
- 7 those and tell me if you've ever seen those memorandums before?
- 8 MJ: What exhibits are those?
- 9 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Defense Exhibit XX and Defense Exhibit
- 10 November-November-November for Identification and Defense Exhibit
- 11 Mike-Mike-Mike for Identification, ma'am.
- 12 WIT: I think I may have.
- 13 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 14 O. Do you recall when you might have seen those memorandums?
- 15 A. I think it was after the assault. I don't know if it was
- 16 during the -- well after the assault and then the decision was made,
- 17 okay, "Let's go ahead and have Manning have a fit-for-duty mental
- 18 eval." And then when the results come back from that, if the mental
- 19 health eval says, "Hey, he's fit for continued service or, no, we
- 20 recommend that he's not," and then the next step was going to be
- 21 building like a separation packet for him. And I was thinking the
- 22 more paperwork that we have documenting some instance in the past,
- 23 the better or the -- I guess, more valid the packet is going to look

- 1 or the stronger the packet will be when it gets to the approving
- authority, whoever that would have been at the time. But I haven't
- 3 seen these since probably the spring of 2010. But I'd have to read
- 4 the whole -- you know, each one of them in its entirety to say I did
- 5 -- I have seen it. But if I had to give a yes or no answer right
- 6 now, I would say, yes, I've seen these.
- 7 Q. All right. And I know it's going to take a little bit of
- 8 time, but I would like you to skim or read each one of those as real
- 9 qu -- as fast you can and still having the content because it's
- 10 important to determine whether or not you've seen these before PFC
- 11 Manning's arrest?
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. At any time as you're reading it you realize, no, I haven't
- 14 seen this, you can stop and say, "No, I haven't seen this."
- 15 A. Okay.

16 [The witness did as directed.]

- 17 A. I have seen that one.
- 18 O. And which one is that that you're seeing?
- 19 A. XX.
- 20 O. So you've seen Defense Exhibit XX before?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 O. Do you recall when you saw this?

- 1 A. I think it was in -- it would have had to have been May
- 2 2010.
- 3 Q. And, I'm sorry, was May 2010 the first time you saw Defense
- 4 Exhibit XX?
- 5 A. Yes, to the best of my memory that was.

6 [There was a pause while the witness reviewed the exhibits.]

- 7 A. Okay. Mike-Mike-Mike, I have seen that one as well.
- 8 Q. And when?
- 9 A. That would have been the same time.
- 10 Q. Again, in the May of 2010 time frame?
- 11 A. Yeah, I want to say I've seen these all at the same time --
- 12 well at least those two, so ----
- 13 [There was a pause while the witness reviewed the exhibits.]
- 14 A. Okay. I think I've seen the last exhibit, triple November.
- 15 O. Also in the May time frame?
- 16 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 17 Q. Now having read each of these, is this the type of
- 18 information that you would expect, as the Company Commander, to be
- 19 informed of?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. And why is that?
- 22 A. As the commander of any size unit, you're responsible for
- 23 whatever happens or fails to happen in your unit. So any kind of

- 1 personnel issues, I would expect be routed through the NCO chain of
- 2 command and then finally, you know, arrive to me.
- 3 Q. And with regards to Defense Exhibit XX, that was in 29
- 4 December 2009. That was prior to you taking command; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. It was.
- 7 Q. Defense Exhibit Mike-Mike-Mike was 26 April 2010. And that
- 8 was after you're taking command?
- A. It was.
- 10 Q. And finally, Defense Exhibit November-November,
- 11 the last two being for Identification, was 8 May 2010?
- 12 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 13 O. Also after you took command?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. Were you expected to have been informed of what happened on
- 16 the 26 April 20 -- around the 26 April 2010 time frame?
- A. I would've.
- 18 Q. And why is that?
- 19 A. Can I see that exhibit again?
- 20 O. Certainly. Handing the witness Defense Mike-Mike for
- 21 Identification.
- 22 [There was a pause while the witness reviewed the DE MMM.]

- 1 A. I was just given the text on this memorandum. It just
- 2 seems like it will be beneficial for me in my, I guess, determination
- 3 whether I want to, like, command refer him for a mental health
- 4 evaluation. I don't know if that's the decision I would have made at
- 5 the time. If I had seen that, I might have just said, "Hey, Master
- 6 Sergeant Adkins, can you handle it in-house? If it gets worse, let
- 7 me know." But, I just like to be informed. As a Commander, you
- 8 always want to be informed on stuff. Whether you're able to act on
- 9 it at the time you're given it or if you feel like you need to act on
- 10 it at the time you're given it, it depends on the situation, but ----
- 11 Q. I'm retrieving from the witness Defense Exhibit Mike-Mike-
- 12 Mike for Identification. Could this also have helped you be informed
- 13 on whether or not a DEROG or removing him from the T-SCIF would have
- 14 been appropriate?
- 15 A. I don't know if that one would have helped me make that
- 16 determination or not, by itself, if I was given it at the time. But
- 17 that in addition to the third and final one on 7 or 8 May, that
- 18 probably would've definitely, you know, backed up my decision.
- 19 O. So with regards to the memorandum in April, did you have
- 20 any concern about a Soldier with the behavioral problems that were
- 21 addressed in there, that wouldn't, in your mind, raise an issue on
- 22 whether or not that Soldier should have a security clearance?
- 23 A. For the middle one there? The April one I just read?

- 1 Q. Yes.
- 2 A. It would have -- I don't know. I don't know if I would've
- 3 -- I mean, it depends on -- maybe today I would say yes, but 3 years
- 4 ago being brand new to the command, I might not have even thought
- 5 about it. I probably didn't know what a DEROG was at that time, but
- 6 ----
- Q. Okay. Let's talk about where you elected to put PFC
- 8 Manning afterwards. You put him in the supply room; is that correct?
- 9 A. I did.
- 10 Q. And when he was in the supply room, was he seeing
- 11 behavioral health at that time, to your knowledge?
- 12 A. I believe he was. I don't know if it was a weekly basis or
- 13 a monthly basis, but I want to say he did have, like, some scattered
- 14 appointments with behavioral health even when he came to work for me.
- 15 Q. And was -- were these command directed or self-referrals,
- 16 to your knowledge?
- 17 A. I'm not sure. I don't think I command referred him until
- 18 maybe the second or third week in May. I'm not positive on that, but
- 19 I think that he was going to see somebody at behavioral health. I
- 20 want to say Captain Worsley at the time, that he had been seeing him
- 21 on -- I don't know how regular of a basis, but he'd seen him in the
- 22 past.

- And did you ever receive any report back from behavioral 1 Ο.
- 2 health?
- I'm not sure -- well, I did, but I don't know if I 3 Α.
- requested the information or they provided it. 4
- Based upon what you received, did you initiate a chapter 5
- 6 action, as the Company Commander?
- A. Yes. To the best of my knowledge, I did. I talked to 7
- 8 Captain Worsley and he did say, "Hey, I've seen, you know, PFC
- Manning in the past. I think that his -- from what I found and from 9
- our counseling sessions, he's got some deeper issues than what the 10
- 11 Army can fix right now, but don't just take my word for it, let's get
- an unbiased opinion. Captain Critchfield is the other behavioral 12
- health specialist in the brigade. Let's have him do, like, the 13
- 14 mental eval and we'll see what he says," ----
- 15 ο. All right.
- 16 Α. ---- and then that's what I did.
- 17 And do you recall ever stating that you were shocked that
- more serious disciplinary actions hadn't been taken based upon PFC 18
- Manning's behavioral issues prior to your determination to chapter
- him? 20

19

- I think I read that in the past and it seemed like, 21
- "Shocked," is one of those words that would be a quote from me. But 22
- I don't -- "Shocked," is not one of those words I'd use on a regular 23

- 1 basis. But, so I don't really recall saying that. So I don't really
- 2 know.
- Q. All right. So now you don't ----
- 4 A. Yeah. I mean, I'm not -- but I've seen that in the past
- 5 and stuff, just reading up on the trial and I did see that I was
- 6 shocked that more action hadn't been taken. I don't really remember
- 7 saying that or not. I did find it, I guess, a little bit strange
- 8 that something, I guess, more severe than just having Manning go to
- 9 behavioral health appointments. Something, I guess, something more
- 10 than that hadn't done and I was a little bit surprised by that but
- 11 ----
- 12 Q. And did you ever have any conversations with Captain Lim
- 13 about what he knew regarding PFC Manning?
- 14 A. I think I may have, but I don't really remember the bulk of
- 15 the conversation. So I don't remember what was said. Most of my
- 16 information came from, like I said, Master Sergeant Adkins. He's the
- 17 one that provided me with the majority of the infor -- or the
- 18 background on Manning, so ----
- 19 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you. No further questions.
- 20 MJ: Cross-examination?
- 21 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: One moment, Your Honor.
- 22 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 23 table.]

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT von ELTEN]:
- 3 Q. Captain Freeburg, you assumed command on 17 April 2010?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. And after you assumed command, you spent a lot of time
- 6 resolving property book issues?
- 7 A. I did. I actually -- typical to sign property book before
- 8 taking command. I took command and about a week later I was actually
- 9 able to sign my property book. So not the preferred method, but we
- 10 didn't really have a choice at the time.
- 11 Q. On direct you testified the assault, you took -- adverse
- 12 action was taken as a result of that assault, correct?
- 13 A. Yeah.
- 14 Q. A Company Grade Article 15?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And as a result of that adverse action, you initiated a
- 17 DEROG?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. And DEROGs are appropriate for adverse actions?
- 20 A. Yes. I mean, it really depends. I would say they might
- 21 be, like, Commander's preference. There's -- I would say depends on
- 22 the type of offense. Maybe what MOS the Soldier has pending, you
- 23 know, adverse action, what position he holds. So, in this case,

- 1 knowing what little I did know about DEROGs and Manning having Top
- 2 Secret clearance and it being an assault and just you know the
- 3 location where he worked, I thought it would be appropriate, so ----
- 4 O. DEROGs aren't appropriate for every outburst, are they?
- 5 A. I would say not. It depends on -- I would say it depends
- 6 on the Commander. It's kind of Commander's discretion. Like, if I
- 7 would said if I had a Soldier that disrespected NCO, I was going to
- 8 give him a Company Grade Article 15, I don't know if I would initiate
- 9 a DEROG or not to suspend his clearance for that. I would almost
- 10 have to make that Commander's determination on what type of offense
- 11 and it would be a case-by-case basis type of analysis on it.
- 12 O. Would you agree that sometimes NCOs handle outburst issues?
- 13 A I would say they do.
- 14 Q. And would you agree ----
- 15 A. Most times they do.
- 16 O. And would you agree that NCO don't have a report every
- 17 outburst to the officer?
- 18 A. I agree.
- 19 O. After you were turtl -- told of the assault, you also
- 20 initiated a health evaluation; is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And you had never been told prior to that initiation by a
- 2 medical professional that PFC Manning should be separated from the
- 3 Army?
- 4 A. No, not until after the fact. After that assault.
- 5 Q. And after you were told -- given a recommendation by a
- 6 medical professional to separate PFC Manning, you took action; is
- 7 that correct?
- A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And the action you took was to initiate a separation?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Thank you.
- 12 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No redirect, Your Honor.
- 13 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 14 the courtroom.]
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Ma'am, the defense's next witness is
- 16 telephonic, Captain Michael Johnson. So we'll need just a moment to
- 17 get him on the line, so ----
- 18 MJ: You want to take a 10-minute recess and try to make all
- 19 that happen?
- 20 ATC[CPT MORROW]: Yes, ma'am.
- 21 MJ: Is 10 minutes enough?
- 22 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, it is, Your Honor.

- MJ: All right. Court is recess then until 5 minutes after 1500
- 2 or 3:00.
- 3 [The court-martial recessed at 1457, 12 August 2013.]
- 4 [The court-martial was called to order at 1509, 12 August 2013.]
- 5 MJ: Court is called to order. Let the record reflect all
- 6 parties present when the court last recessed are again present in
- 7 court.
- 8 Mr. Coombs, are you ready to proceed?
- 9 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense calls Captain
- 10 Michael Johnson for a telephonic testimony. Captain Johnson, can you
- 11 hear me?
- 12 WIT: Yes, sir.
- 13 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Captain Johnson, the trial counsel's is going
- 14 to swear you in.
- 15 CAPTAIN MICHAEL JOHNSON, U.S. Army, was called as a witness for the
- 16 defense, was sworn, and testified telephonically as follows:
- 17 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 18 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT von ELTEN]:
- 19 Q. Do you have any papers with you?
- 20 A. I have a notepad and pencil right next to the phone here.
- 21 Q. Please put that underneath your seat.
- 22 A. Understood.
- Q. Are you by yourself?

- A. I am.
- Q. Are you in a place where you are able to testify freely?
- A. Yes.
- 4 O. Should anything interrupt your testimony, please notify the
- 5 court.
- A. Understood.
- 7 Q. And for the record, you're Captain Michael Johnson of the
- 8 4th Brigade of the 25th ID?
- 9 Q. That is correct.
- 10 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Thank you.
- 11 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 12 Q. And Captain Johnson, were you ever assigned to the 2nd BCT
- 13 of 10th Mountain Division?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And when was that?
- 16 A. My initial assignment was February of 2008 through October
- 17 of 2010.
- 18 Q. And what was your job when you were with the 2nd BCT?
- 19 A. My initial job was 19 months as a Signals and Intelligence
- 20 platoon leader and I spent the remainder of my tour as the Collection
- 21 Manager of the Brigade S-2 shop.
- 22 Q. When did you switch over to the Collection Manager of the
- 23 S-2 shop?

- 1 A. Approximately 30 days prior to the deployment. I would say
- 2 -- I don't have my ORB right in front of me, but, roughly speaking,
- 3 September of 2009.
- 4 Q. And did you ever approach the then S-2 Major Clausen
- 5 regarding your initial counseling?
- 6 A. Regarding initial counseling, yes.
- 7 Q. And did they ever provide you with a written counseling for
- 8 what your job would entail and what your duties were?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. What was your understanding of your responsibilities when
- 11 you switched over to assume your new position?
- 12 A. Collection management and then just something I took from
- 13 my previous assigned Commander, was Paul Walters, was regardless of
- 14 whether you're on staff or not, you're still a leader.
- 15 O. Did you ever state that you kind of felt your job was a
- 16 bunch of, "Hey you, taskers?"
- 17 A. Yes, most definitely.
- 18 Q. And why did you feel that way?
- 19 A. Essentially, there was no direction as far as what was
- 20 going on in the S-2 shop prior to our deployment and in the initial
- 21 stages of our deployment. So there was delineation of tasking.
- 22 Q. Now, when did you arrive in Iraq?

- 1 A. I can't recall the exact date. I believe it was November
- 2 or December of 2009.
- 3 Q. And what was your duty position when you deployed?
- 4 A. It was collection management.
- 5 Q. Did you ever move to work into -- inside the SCIF?
- 6 A. Yes ----
- 7 Q. And when ----
- 8 A. ---- about half ----
- 9 Q. I'm sorry ----
- 10 A. Sorry, you're ----
- 11 Q. ---- go ahead.
- 12 A. About halfway through our deployment I was working out of
- 13 the top floor and Captain Lim, the S-2 at the time, and I had
- 14 discussed the fact that being on the top floor was actually
- 15 detrimental to my ability to do my job effectively. So we moved back
- 16 into the SCIF where I was able to actually focus on the intelligence
- 17 production portion instead of ISR reallocation.
- 18 O. And did you have any enlisted Soldiers that worked for you
- 19 when you moved into the SCIF?
- 20 A. Into the SCIF? I still maintained oversight of Specialist
- 21 August Dobins [Phonetic]. However, he was not co-located with me. I
- 22 was also responsible for all the Soldiers of the current operations
- 23 desk.

- 1 Q. And did you believe, I guess based upon your position, that
- ${\bf 2}$ $\,$ you had a responsibility to counsel and discipline these Soldiers if
- 3 needed?
- A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And why did you feel that way?
- 6 A. Because I'm a leader.
- 7 Q. Did you ever engage Soldiers on enlisted matters?
- A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And when you did that, were you ever told that you were not
- 10 to deal with enlisted matters by anyone in the S-2 section?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. And who told you that?
- 13 A. Specifically, Master Sergeant Adkins and then when I took
- 14 the issue up to my leadership, initially Major Clausen, I was told to
- 15 back off, that Master Sergeant Adkins would deal with it and then
- 16 later Captain Lim, essentially the same answer.
- 17 Q. And what enlisted matters were you trying to deal with as a
- 18 leader ----
- 19 A. My initial ones ----
- 20 O. ---- in general?
- 21 A. My initial ones were we had two Soldiers that had promoted
- 22 and they had not been pinned on their rank. So they were receiving
- 23 the pay and then showing up on their ERB that they achieved the rank

- 1 of specialists and they had not been pinned. I found out about this
- 2 through passing and I brought the issue to Master Sergeant Adkins. I
- 3 was notified that they had not earned the rank and at which point I
- 4 reminded him that that was our duty to do that beforehand, before
- 5 they achieved -- or before the rank was associated with them. Once
- 6 they -- once it shows up on the ERB, you know, we have to pin them.
- 7 And that was one of the first issues I took from Major Clausen.
- 8 Q. Now, in addition to you, from your perspective, were other
- 9 leaders stripped of supervisory and disciplinary responsibility over
- 10 enlisted Soldiers?
- 11 A. Yes. I cannot recall his name. There was an E-5 who
- 12 worked in the S-2 shop as well. Shaver sticks out in my head. But
- 13 he deployed out with me on the advance party as well and he and I
- 14 talked at length about the fact that he was not treated as a team
- 15 leader or a squad leader and essentially all leadership was directed
- 16 right through Master Sergeant Adkins.
- 17 Q. And from your perspective as a leader, was Master Sergeant
- 18 Adkins enforcing standards?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Was the S-2, Major Clausen, from your perspective,
- 21 enforcing standards?
- 22 A. No.

- 1 Q. Based upon your perception, how would you describe the
- 2 leadership provided within the S-2 section?
- 3 A. Regarding specifically Major Clausen, we would refer to him
- 4 as an absentee leader. He was separated physically from the S-2
- 5 shop, he worked in a separate area. Both deployed in war and in the
- 6 rear. So we see him maybe once a day. He would just kind of pop his
- 7 head in, smile at everybody, tell everybody they were doing a great
- 8 job, and then punch out. So most of the leadership came down to
- 9 Captain Martin, I believe she's now Captain Fulton and then later
- 10 Captain Lim.
- 11 Q. From your perspective, was there a clear chain of command
- 12 and responsibility within the S-2 section?
- 13 A. Chain of command, yes. Responsibility, no. Chain of
- 14 command is very simple. But the responsibility -- who is responsible
- 15 for what tasks and who was -- you know, what sections were
- 16 responsible for that was not clear, no.
- 17 O. Within the S-2 section, who did Major Clausen allow to
- 18 essentially run the S-2 section?
- 19 A. Pat Martin was the person doing the privacy of the day-to-
- 20 day operation of S-2 shop and then Master Sergeant Adkins was running
- 21 the enlisted side and that was one of the friction points, was we did
- 22 not have -- we didn't have Soldiers who were dedicated to specific
- 23 tasks.

- Q. And what do you mean by that?
- 2 A So a request for analytic product would come in and just
- 3 essentially it would just go to whoever was immediately available.
- 4 So you -- just working with the analyst you have to give them a
- 5 problem set. Otherwise, they fail to be good at it. You're always
- 6 starting off at base one instead of -- instead of giving them -- I
- 7 don't want to say, a reduction or assembly line, but you allow them
- 8 to analyze in depth. Say what we were doing is we were just doing
- 9 random taskings and the Soldiers never actually developed a depth of
- 10 the task.
- 11 Q. Within the S-2 section was there a clear rating chain?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And how did the leadership rating chain scheme work, from
- 14 your perspective?
- 15 A. Captain Lim -- do you want me to focus on Captain Lim or
- 16 Major Clausen?
- 17 O. Let's go ahead and deal with Major Clausen first.
- 18 A. Okay. Major Clausen rated me and rated Captain Martin.
- 19 Captain Martin rated the lieutenants, Lieutenant Gaab and Liz --
- 20 Lieutenant Fields. And then Major Clausen rated Master Sergeant
- 21 Adkins and, from there, Master Sergeant Adkins rated the -- as well
- 22 as Chief Ehresman, Master Major Clausen rated Chief Ehresman, and
- 23 then Master Sergeant Adkins rated the enlisted Soldiers by rank.

- 1 O. With regard -- why was Master Sergeant Adkins rating the
- 2 enlisted Soldiers as opposed to, I guess, the first line supervisors
- 3 for enlisted Soldiers?
- 4 A. I gu -- to elaborate on that, Master Sergeant Adkins would
- 5 rate, you have, Sergeant Balonek and I cannot remember his name, but
- 6 the other E-5 in the shop. And so he rated them and then those two
- 7 were responsible for giving the 10-level Soldiers their monthly
- 8 counselings.
- 9 Q. Okay. Now, I want to ask you a few questions about your
- 10 observations of PFC Manning. Okay?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. What was the first issue that you noticed with PFC Manning,
- 13 as far as a behavioral issue?
- 14 A. Just odd behavior and in the rear we also noticed that he
- 15 attendance issues, generally tardy.
- 16 O. In December of 2009, did you ever witness an issue
- 17 involving PFC Manning and Specialist Padgett?
- 18 A. I did not witness it. However, I'm very aware of the
- 19 situation. Specialist Padgett came to me for advice. The night
- 20 prior, I advised him to counsel Private, or Specialist Manning and
- 21 then the next morning we came in there was the incident with the
- 22 table flipping.

- 1 Q. And with regards to the table flipping incident, were you
- 2 present at that point?
- A. No.
- 4 Q. Were you later made aware of what happened during that time
- 5 period?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And based upon what you found out happened, did you address
- 8 your concerns with Major Clausen and Master Sergeant Adkins?
- A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And what were your concerns that you were addressing with
- 11 him?
- 12 A. Primarily that Specialist Manning needed to be squared
- 13 away. The -- it's not uncommon for 35 Foxes to be high maintenance,
- 14 but he had crossed the line.
- 15 O. And when you went to Master Sergeant Adkins and Major
- 16 Clausen to express your concerns, what were you told?
- 17 A. When I went to Master Sergeant Adkins and said he had it
- 18 and then when I went to talk to Major Clausen about it he told me to
- 19 let Master Sergeant Adkins deal with it.
- 20 O. Do vou know what a DEROG is?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And how do you know what a DEROG is?

- 1 A. Well, now I'm Company Commander for an Intelligence
- 2 Company, so I'm unfortunately very familiar with them. But at the
- 3 time I was familiar with it, I had one Soldier during my time as a
- 4 Platoon Leader who had a DEROG due to a lack of lovalty and so I am
- 5 familiar with a Commander's requirements to report to CFFC, I believe
- 6 is the acronym, but the Clearance Center, that a Soldier had
- 7 derogatory reporting on him.
- 8 Q. And what is the goal, from your perspective, of reporting
- 9 DEROGs in capturing that information when somebody has done something
- 10 that warrants a DEROG?
- 11 A. To report that their clearance has been locally suspended
- 12 by the SSO, as well as to notify for future investigation, either at
- 13 that time or for immediate purposes or later on when they
- 14 reinvestigated. That incident needs to be investigated specifically.
- 15 Q. Based upon what you perceived, did you ever form an opinion
- 16 whether or not PFC Manning should have received a DEROG?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Did you ever ----
- 19 A. No, I did not form an opinion.
- 20 O. Okay. Did you ever discuss that with anyone?
- 21 A. Not to my recollection.
- 22 O. And in the December time frame, from your memory, did
- 23 anyone raise the issue of the possibility of a DEROG?

- 1 A. Not to my recollection.
- 2 Q. Captain Johnson, the trial counsel's going to have a few
- 3 questions for you. Okay?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: All right. Thank you.
- 6 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: May I have a moment, Your Honor?
- 7 MJ: Yes. Captain Johnson, this is the military judge, Colonel
- $8\,$ Lind. The government is conferring for a few minutes and we'll be
- 9 right with you.
- 10 WIT: Yes, ma'am.
- 11 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 12 table.1
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 14 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT von ELTEN]:
- 15 Q. Captain Johnson?
- 16 A. Yes, sir.
- 17 O. How often did you see PFC Manning?
- 18 A. On a daily basis up until he was removed from the S-2 shop.
- 19 Q. And how often did you interact with him?
- 20 A. Aside from impacting interaction, very little. We had a --
- 21 at the very beginning of the deployment, I took a few of the Soldiers
- 22 over to the gym to try to show them bas -- some workouts. He came
- 23 with us and I believe I had one more one-on-one work out with him,

- 1 two total was may -- probably was the limit of my one-on-one
- 2 interaction with him.
- 3 Q. Why did you take PFC Manning to the gym?
- 4 A. Well, that's for morale. He seemed to take an interest in
- 5 my going to the gym and, you know, a couple of the Soldiers were
- 6 asking about it. So I invited them all out to come out and I wanted
- 7 them, in this case, you know, it can get lonely on deployments if
- 8 you're shut off.
- 9 Q. And what happened after you up took him to the gym the
- 10 second time?
- 11 A. I think I pushed him too hard, honestly, and he never went
- 12 again. I invited him a few more times, you know, he didn't seem
- 13 interested.
- 14 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Thank you.
- 15 WIT: Yes, sir.
- 16 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No redirect, Your Honor.
- 17 MJ: Captain Johnson, this is the military judge again. I have
- 18 one question.
- 19 WIT: Yes, ma'am.
- 20 EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL
- 21 Questions by the military judge:
- Q. Why is it not uncommon for 35 Foxes to be high maintenance?

- 1 A. Ma'am, I wish there was a better answer, but I've
- 2 interacted with hundreds of 35 Foxes throughout the 7 years I've been
- 3 an MI officer and they -- for whatever reason they tend to have sense
- 4 of entitlement. To elaborate, my Brigade Commander upon my command's
- 5 -- my Company Commander's in brief are talking about the sense of
- 6 entitlement that my company has and that was one of the goals was to
- 7 eliminate that sense of entitlement. And we get these Soldier right
- 8 out of AIT feeling that they're better than the average Soldier and
- 9 most definitely that they're smarter than the majority of the
- 10 leadership. Due ----
- 11 Q. Any follow up ----
- 12 A. --- to this -- I'm sorry, ma'am.
- 13 Q. Go ahead, proceed. I'm sorry, I thought you were finished
- 14 with your answer. Proceed.
- 15 A. Due to this, they tend to be -- they tend to question
- 16 authority a lot. They tend to question their orders and their
- 17 leadership. They typically have a problem with authority, not to the
- 18 point of being disrespectful but just pushing their limits, not
- 19 paying attention, not standing at parade rest, not referring to their
- 20 leaders by their position or grade and then if they -- they'll move
- 21 on from there.
- 22 MJ: Thank you. Any follow up based on that?
- 23 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No. Your Honor.

- 1 ATC[CPT VON ELTEN]: No, Your Honor.
- 2 MJ: All right. Want to permanently excused or temporarily
- 3 excuse this witness?
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permanently, Your Honor.
- 5 MJ: All right. Captain Johnson, thank you very much.
- 6 [The witness was permanently excused and the telephonic interview was
- 7 ended.]
- 8 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, the defense calls Lieutenant
- 9 Elizabeth Fields to the stand.
- 10 [Busy signal in the background.]
- 11 MJ: Could we have somebody fix the phone.
- 12 [The phone connection was terminated.]
- 13 LIEUTENANT ELIZABETH FIELDS, U.S. Army, was called as a witness for
- 14 the defense, was sworn, and testified as follows:
- 15 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 16 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT von ELTEN]:
- 17 Q. And for the record, you're Captain Elizabeth Fields 513th
- 18 MI Battalion ----
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. ---- Brigade?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.

22 23

- 1 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 2 Q. Captain Fields, were you ever assigned to the 2nd BCT, 10th
- 3 Mountain?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 Q. And when was that?
- 6 A That was from April of 2009 until October of 2011.
- 7 Q. And what was your ----
- 8 A 2012, I'm sorry.
- 9 Q. Okay. And what was your job with the second 2nd BCT?
- 10 A. My job was initially, I worked up at brigade. I was in the
- 11 brigade intel shop. Then I eventually became a -- the -- was for the
- 12 Bravo Company, I was an Executive Officer. And, lastly, I was the
- 13 Battalion Maintenance Office for 2 BSTB.
- 14 Q. And did you ever -- within the SCIF, did you ever work in
- 15 the SCIF?
- 16 A. I did, sir.
- 17 O. And what was your job there?
- 18 A. My job there, I was a Sunni Team Analyst.
- 19 O. Now, in addition to your other duties, were you ever given
- 20 the responsibility of the Specification -- as you said, Special
- 21 Security Representative for the 2nd BCT?
- 22 A. I was not on official orders.
- 23 Q. You were not on official orders?

- A. Correct.
- Q. Were you ever given that responsibility?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. Did you ever serve in that responsibility at all?
- 5 A. No. I did up at Drum, sir.
- 6 Q. Okay. And what did you do when you were at Drum?
- 7 A. When I was at Drum, I was the SSR which is the Special
- 8 Security Representative. In addition, I also worked in the brigade
- 9 intel shop. So you could be calling me the Assistant Brigade
- 10 Officer.
- 11 Q. And what sort of training did you need to become the
- 12 Brigade SSR at Fort Drum?
- 13 A. At Fort Drum, I worked with the SSO, it was Mr. Jeffrey
- 14 Gerrish [Phonetic] up at 10th Mountain, the Division Headquarters
- 15 where he worked. And I would just coordinate with him any time I
- 16 needed anything.
- 17 O. Did you receive an hour long course in order to be
- 18 certified as a Brigade SSR?
- 19 A. I don't know the length, but I did receive a course.
- 20 O. And in addition to that course, did you receive any other
- 21 training?
- 22 A. No, that was all I can recall.

- 1 Q. And were you selected or were you -- did you volunteer for
- 2 the SSR?
- 3 A. I was told I was going to do it.
- 4 Q. And what month did you arrive in Iraq?
- A. It was October of 2009.
- 6 Q. And you indicated that you weren't -- you were not the SSR
- 7 when you got to Iraq?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Who was the SSR for your unit?
- 10 A. I don't know who was on orders to be the SSR.
- 11 Q. Do you know who served that position?
- 12 A. I don't know.
- 13 Q. Did Master Sergeant Adkins ever serve in that position?
- 14 A. He assumed security responsibilities.
- 15 O. And would that be what the SSR does?
- 16 A. The SSR, yes, it encompasses a wide range of things. But
- 17 that was one of the duties.
- 18 Q. And why was he assuming that duty, do you know?
- 19 A. I don't know.
- 20 Q. Do you know if he received any training to fulfill that
- 21 role?
- 22 A. I don't know.

- 1 Q. And I'm going to tap into some of your experience just to
- 2 see if this would fall within the duties of an SSR, okay?
- 3 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 4 O. Am I correct in saying that all thumb drives, data sticks,
- 5 external hard-drives, USB ports are expressly prohibited within the
- 6 T-SCIF?
- A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. And that's one of the duties of the SSR, to ensure that
- 9 thumb drives, data sticks, external hard-drives, USB ports are part
- 10 -- within the T-SCIF?
- 11 A. That is correct.
- 12 Q. And why do we prohibit those devices?
- 13 A. From my understanding, I know there was a security
- 14 violation years ago in terms of thumb drives. So it was told no
- 15 thumb drives can be allowed in the SCIFs, when I came into the Army.
- 16 Q. And what about CDs? Are CDs and DVDs supposed to be
- 17 inventoried, approved and signed for by the SSR?
- 18 A. As of right now or what date?
- 19 O. As of the time of the deployment.
- 20 A. The deployment? To my knowledge, ves.
- 21 O. And was that being done by Master Sergeant Adkins as far
- 22 accounting for and inventorying, all CDs and DVDs within the T-SCIF?
- 23 A. I don't know if that was his role.

- Q. Do you know if anyone was doing that?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Do you believe that was being done?
- 4 A. No, I don't know.
- 5 Q. You don't know or you don't believe that was being done?
- 6 A. I don't know.
- 7 Q. Do you know, with regards to Master Sergeant Adkins being
- 8 the SSR, what he did to ensure accountability of media such as CDs?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Do you recall indicating in a sworn statement that you
- 11 believe that there was no accountability over CDs?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 O. And is that what you believe here today?
- 14 A. I can't remember, sir.
- 15 Q. What I'm going to do is have your sworn statement marked.
- 16 I'll let you look at that to refresh your memory ----
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 Q. ---- and then I'll ask you the question, okay?
- 19 A. Okay.
- 20 [There was a pause while the defense marked the statement as a
- 21 Defense Exhibit.]
- 22 Q. Captain Fields, I'm showing you what's been marked as
- 23 Defense Exhibit Papa-Papa-Papa for Identification. If you would,

- 1 please, just go ahead and take a look at that for a moment, thumb
- 2 through the pages. And then look at me after you've had a chance to
- 3 look at that document. And you don't need to read the document, kind
- 4 of peruse the document to see what it is.

5 [The witness did as directed.]

- A. Okay.
- 7 Q. Do you recognize this document?
- 8 A. I do.
- 9 Q. What is it?
- 10 A. It is my sworn statement that I gave back in -- there is no
- 11 date -- it was January 18th, 2011.
- 12 Q. What I'm going to do is I'm going to direct your attention
- 13 to the second page and I want you to go ahead and just read silently
- 14 to yourself basically from the question, "Did Major Clausen give any
- 15 guidance on bringing CDs and DVDs into the SCIF," down to, "There was
- 16 no accountability of the media." Just kind of read that to yourself.

17 [The witness did as directed.]

- 18 A. Okav.
- 19 O. All right. I'm retrieving Defense Exhibit Papa-Papa-Papa
- 20 for Identification. Does that refresh your memory?
- 21 A. It does, sir, at the time. I can't -- as of right now, I
- 22 don't recall any procedures. So if I were to say, "Yes," or "No," I
- 23 can't provide you with any examples.

- 1 Q. I guess my question is, does your refresh memory on whether
- 2 or not there was accountability of CDs within the SCIF?
- A. No, sir.
- 4 Q. It does not refresh your memory ----
- 5 A. No, because I can't -- I can't recall any examples of
- 6 whether or not people did take accountability or not.
- 7 Q. At the time -- I'm retrieving again Defense Exhibit Papa-
- 8 Papa-Papa for Identification. Handing the witness Defense Exhibit
- 9 Papa-Papa-Papa for Identification. At the time that you wrote this
- 10 sworn statement, did you have a memory of the events that were within
- 11 the sworn statement?
- 12 A. At the time, I'm assuming I did.
- 13 Q. And the question -- do you recall why you were giving this
- 14 sworn statement at the time?
- 15 A. I was told we were conducting an AAR to see what happened
- 16 here for the case and to see if we can make any procedures in the
- 17 future that can correct this.
- 18 Q. And when you were asked questions and you were giving
- 19 responses, was it important to you to give accurate responses?
- 20 A. Yes, it was. It was a sworn statement, you have to.
- 21 Q. And I imagine, then, you gave responses to the best of your
- 22 recollection?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.

- Q. And those were the -- what you recalled at that point?
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- Retrieving Defense Exhibit Papa-Papa-Papa for
- 4 Identification. Within Defense Exhibit Papa-Papa-Papa for
- 5 Identification -- and actually showing, again, the witness the
- 6 exhibit. I'm going to read this section out loud and just tell me if
- 7 I'm reading this correctly, okay?
- 8 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 9 Q. "Did Major Clausen give any guidance on bringing CDs and
- 10 DVDs into the SCIF?" Answer: "Initially, they weren't allowed in
- 11 the SCIF, but then they slacked off and then -- and they were brought
- 12 into the SCIF so they could play mu sic on the computers."
- 13 Question: "Was it simply accepted?" Answer: "Yes." Question: "How
- 14 did you ensure accountability of the media?" Answer: "There was no
- 15 accountability of the media."
- 16 Did I read that correctly?
- 17 A. Yes, you did.
- 18 Q. Based upon your perception, how would you describe the
- 19 leadership provided within the S-2 section?
- 20 A. Which leadership?
- Your officer and enlisted leadership.
- 22 A. I'd say that they performed to the best of their ability,
- 23 sir.

- 1 Q. Was there a clear chain-of-command within the S-2 section?
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 O. How did Master Sergeant Adkins provide supervisory
- 4 responsibility to enlisted Soldiers, from your perspective?
- 5 A. From my perspective, is that he performed to the best of
- 6 his ability.
- 7 Q. Okay. I show you again Defense Exhibit Papa-Papa-Papa for
- 8 Identification. And again, I'm going to go ahead and read something.
- 9 You tell me if I'm saying this correctly. Okay?
- 10 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 11 Q. Question: "From your perspective as a Sunni Analyst, how
- 12 did Master Sergeant Adkins provide supervisory responsibility?"
- 13 Answer: "I thought it was terrible because the problems were
- 14 ignored, such as mental problems. He tried to keep it to himself.
- 15 Key problem was Manning and when the problems came up I was told that
- 16 it was an NCO problem and stay out of it."
- 17 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 18 O. Did I read that correctly?
- 19 A. You did, sir.
- 20 Q. Now, is that your memory -- do you still believe that the
- 21 supervisor, Master Sergeant Adkins supervisory responsibility was
- 22 terrible?

- 1 A. No. Based on when I wrote that statement, I was a Second
- 2 Lieutenant, you know, just being promoted a First Lieutenant. Now a
- 3 Captain, looking at taking a company command here soon, and with that
- 4 experience that I've gained I now have a new perspective in looking
- 5 back and I've seen that everyone performed to the best of their
- 6 ability that they could have done.
- 7 Q. Okay. So maybe it's just a matter of timing -----
- 8 A It's more time and experience ----
- 9 Q. All right.
- 10 A. ---- in the Army.
- 11 Q. As a first lieutenant, at the time that you wrote this
- 12 sworn statement, you believed Master Sergeant Adkins supervisory
- 13 responsibility was terrible because problems were ignored?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 O. Now, as a captain, you don't believe that's correct or you
- 16 do believe that is correct, but he performed to the best of his
- 17 abilities?
- 18 A. I believe he performed to the best of his abilities and
- 19 here's why. In looking back now, I did not have a supervisory role
- 20 over Master Sergeant Adkins. So due to that, I could not tell you
- 21 how he performed his job accurately.

- 1 O. Okay. I guess, though -- do you believe, now as a captain,
- 2 that he provided terrible supervisory responsibility and that he
- 3 ignored problems?
- A. No, sir. I can't answer that because I didn't see him from
- 5 a supervisor's role.
- Q. Do you believe now as a captain that mental problems were
- 7 being ignored and he tried to keep it to himself?
- 8 A. I can't answer that because I don't know what issues were
- 9 brought to him.
- 10 Q. But apparently you believed that as a first lieutenant?
- 11 A. I did at the time, yes, sir.
- 12 O. All right. Explain to me why you believed that at the
- 13 time?
- 14 A. I can't tell you why I had written that at the time, sir.
- 15 O. Well, again, you expressed that it was important to be
- 16 honest, it was a sworn statement. I believe your words were, "Yeah,
- 17 you got to be very honest in a sworn statement." So why would you
- 18 say that in a sworn statement?
- 19 A. Because, at the time, I had little experience in the
- 20 military. So I'm looking at -- it's typical when you get to a new
- 21 unit you start judging people who are around you and so it was just
- 22 my initial impression. However, after gaining more experience, I
- 23 realize that you have to look people in a different light.

- 1 Q. All right. Well, I'll first ask you this. Did you ever
- 2 say that there was a lack of leadership across-the-board?
- 3 A. I did say that in a sworn statement.
- 4 Q. All right. Do you believe that now, today, as you sit
- 5 there?
- A. Negative, sir.
- 7 Q. So at the time you gave the sworn statement, you believed
- $8\,$ within S-2 section there was a lack of leadership across-the-board
- 9 but, today, you don't believe that?
- 10 A. Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. And what changed between the time that you wrote this sworn
- 12 statement and today? I know you said you got promoted, but what
- 13 issue caused you to look back and say, "You know what, when I said
- 14 there was a lack of leadership across-the-board within the S-2
- 15 section I wasn't quite accurate?"
- 16 A. Correct, sir. When I said that at the time, I was doing
- 17 the typical -- often times when lieutenants get in the Army, you make
- 18 pre-judgments about people without knowing or seeing because you
- 19 haven't served in those positions yet. But now that I've gained more
- 20 experience in the Army, I realize that you can really only judge
- 21 people that you are in control of because you're the one giving them
- 22 the tasks, you're the one seeing what they have to do on a day-to-day
- 23 basis. So that's why I'm now refuting that statement that I had once

- 1 said initially. I realize that, "Hey, I cannot give an accurate
- 2 assessment of whether or not they performed their job, because of the
- 3 fact that I was not in charge of them."
- 4 Q. Okay. But as far as leadership, you were a first
- 5 lieutenant, correct?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. So there were people above you within the S-2 section?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. Imagine you could -- could you opine on the leadership you
- 10 received from those individuals?
- 11 A. Excuse me?
- 12 Q. Could you opine -- could you make an opinion regarding the
- 13 quality of leadership that you received from individuals above you?
- 14 A. Not an accurate one, sir, because I don't know what they do
- 15 on a day-to-day function.
- 16 Q. Okay. I want to ask you a few questions about PFC Manning.
- 17 All right?
- 18 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 19 Q. Do you recall -- well, first of all, what's the first issue
- 20 that you recall noticing with regards to PFC Manning and any sort of
- 21 behavioral problems?
- 22 A. The first behavioral issue I recall, I believe it was
- 23 December or January. Agai -- the term is not corre -- I don't --

- 1 forget what month it was. Was he was being counseled by Specialist
- 2 Padgett. And I remember I just -- I was sitting down at my desk, it
- 3 was in another room, I heard a table, it was lifted. There was a lot
- 4 of noise and commotion and when I walked in the room I had seen that
- 5 Manning was being restrained by -- I can't remember if it was Padgett
- 6 or Chief Ehresman.
- 7 Q. All right. And so you hear -- let's go back a little bit,
- 8 I guess. You said you heard a scream?
- 9 A. Well, not a scream. I heard a table lift ----
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. ---- like almost the sound of when you move a table.
- Q. And what caused you to want to get up and, I guess, go look
- 13 to see what was going on?
- 14 A. Because there a loud thump, sir.
- 15 Q. Did you hear anything else besides the table?
- 16 A. No, sir.
- 17 Q. And then where were you at when you heard the table?
- 18 A. I was sitting at my desk, sir.
- 19 O. And where was that in relation to where PFC Manning, Chief
- 20 Ehresman, and Specialist Padgett were?
- 21 A. Sir, it's almost like I'd be sitting right here and maybe
- 22 that door would be the room, but the door was faced against that
- 23 wall.

- 1 O. Let the record reflect the witness pointed towards a door
- 2 that was approximately 15 feet to 20 feet away from you. Would you
- 3 agreement with that estimation?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 O. So when you heard the noise, what did you do?
- 6 A. I just got up, sir, and I wanted to see what was going on.
- 7 Q. And when you got -- when you walked into that area, what
- 8 did you see?
- 9 A. I saw that PFC Manning was being restrained by either
- 10 Specialist Padgett or Chief Ehresman. I know they were both in
- 11 there. I don't remember who physically had him restrained.
- 12 O. And then what happened, from your perspective?
- 13 A. And then I went back. Chief Ehresman said he was going to
- 14 take care of it and, from my knowledge, it was reported to Master
- 15 Sergeant Adkins, but I did not see that or physically see it being
- 16 reported to Master Sergeant Adkins. It's just my knowledge that I
- 17 have from rumor.
- 18 Q. Okay. What did you find out -- what did you know, from
- 19 your position, happened within the counseling session between
- 20 Specialist Padgett and PFC Manning?
- 21 A. T don't know. All I know is he was being counseled.
- Q. You never found out the circumstances of why the table was
- 23 lifted or what -- or why someone was restraining PFC Manning?

- 1 A. No, I just know he was being counseled and supposedly he
- 2 got angry about it.
- 3 Q. And you know of no other facts?
- 4 A. No, sir.
- 5 Q. And after the incident, what happened with PFC Manning?
- 6 A. Aft -- he was still -- I don't know what administrative
- 7 action had been taken against him.
- 8 Q. Did you talk to Master Sergeant Adkins about what you saw?
- 9 A. It was either that -- there was an incident -- I did talk
- 10 to Master Sergeant Adkins at one point ----
- 11 Q. And we'll get to that one. But with ----
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. ---- regards to this incident, did you ever speak to Master
- 14 Sergeant Adkins about it?
- 15 A. This may have been the incident I talked to him about. I
- 16 don't remember what the incident was about, but I did approach Master
- 17 Sergeant Adkins at one point and I said, "Hey, what are we doing
- 18 about this Soldier?" He said, "Ma'am, it's an NCO issue" and, based
- 19 on past training I received, I've always been told, "NCOs have their
- 20 lane, officers have their lane." So I left it as is.
- 21 Q. All right. Now, there was another incident. Do you recall
- 22 seeing PFC Manning on the floor in the supply room?
- 23 A. Supply room? No, sir.

- 1 O. Or a conference room?
- 2 A. N ----
- 3 Q. Did you ever recall seeing PFC Manning on the floor of a
- 4 room?
- A. No, sir.
- 6 Q. Do you ever recall a time in which Master Sergeant Adkins
- 7 was talking to PFC Manning while he was on the floor rocking back and
- 8 forth?
- A. No, sir.
- 10 Q. You don't recall that at all?
- 11 A. I can't recall that issue as of today.
- 12 Q. I'm going to go ahead and just give you some facts, see if
- 13 this jogs your memory, okay?
- 14 A. [Affirmative response.]
- 15 O. Do you recall ever saying to CID that there was another
- 16 incident in which Master Sergeant Adkins found PFC Manning in the
- 17 supply room and PFC Manning was rocking back and forth what you
- 18 believed to be an hour? Do you recall that at all?
- 19 A. I cannot recall an incident, sir.
- 20 O. Do you have any memory problems or issues?
- 21 A. I do not, sir.
- Q. So, I guess when you say you don't recall it, do you
- 23 believe that didn't happen or do you believe you just don't remember?

- 1 A. I seriously, sir, I cannot remember anything of that -- I
- 2 never witnessed anything like that.
- 3 Q. What's the next issue that you recall regarding PFC
- 4 Manning?
- 5 A. I don't recall any more, sir.
- 6 Q. How long did you remain in your position within the SCIF?
- 7 A. Until March of 2010, sir.
- 8 Q. And then where did you go?
- 9 A. I became the Bravo Company Executive Officer.
- 10 Q. And did you have any -- when you came that -- when you went
- 11 to that position, did you have any involvement within the S-2
- 12 section?
- 13 A. I did not, sir. Wait, I had Soldiers who worked in there
- 14 and we had property that was in there, but other than that ----
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you. No further questions.
- 16 MJ: Government?
- 17 ATC[CPT VON ELTEN]: One moment, Your Honor.
- 18 MJ: [Affirmative response.]
- 19 [There was a pause while the trial counsel conferred at the counsel
- 20 table.]
- 21 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Nothing, Your Honor.
- 22 MJ: I just have a couple.

EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL

2 Questions by the military judge:

- 3 Q. Do you remember how many sworn statements you made with
- 4 respect to this case?

1

- 5 A. I do not, ma'am.
- 6 O. Was it more than one?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. Less than five?
- 9 A. Possibly, ma'am. The way it worked is, we were initially
- 10 called in, there were multiple parties who talked to us. It was a
- 11 mixture of I was just informed, "Hey, this is for an AAR," and I was
- 12 called back on several occasions.
- 13 Q. If you made statements in -- I mean, I understand your
- 14 opinion has changed now because of your experience ----
- 15 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 16 O. --- with respect to Master Sergeant Adkins and I think the
- 17 leadership traits; if you made factual statements about something
- 18 happening or not happening in these prior statements that you made,
- 19 would they have been true?
- 20 A. Yes and -- yes.
- 21 O. Even if you don't remember them today?
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 23 MJ: All right. Any follow-up based on that?

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 2 ATC[CPT VON ELTEN]: No, Your Honor.
- 3 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 4 the courtroom.]
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Ma'am, that is all of the witnesses that we
- 6 have scheduled for today. The defense will start tomorrow morning at
- 7 0930 with Lieutenant Tanva Gaab.
- 8 MJ: All right. Before we recess, the Court is prepared to rule
- 9 the government motion for appropriate relief, R.C.M. 706 long form.
- 10 On 8 August 2013, the government filed a motion for the
- 11 Court to order the defense to provide the government with the full
- 12 contents of the R.C.M. 706 report regarding the inquiry into the
- 13 mental capacity or mental responsibility of PFC Manning, R.C.M. 706
- 14 report. In accordance with M.R.E. 302(c), Appellate Exhibit 645. On
- 15 10 August 2013, the defense filed a response in opposition, Appellate
- 16 Exhibit 652.
- 17 Findings of Fact:
- 18 One, an inquiry into the mental responsibili -- mental
- 19 capacity or mental responsibility of PFC Manning under R.C.M. 8 --
- 20 706, was conducted and will call that, "R.C.M. 706 Board." On 22
- 21 April 2011, the R.C.M. 706 Board issues -- issued its report per
- 22 R.C.M. 706(c)(3)(a) and (b) "Only a statement of the R.C.M. 706
- 23 Board's conclusions, as to specified questions, was released to the

- 1 trial counsel. Defense counsel received the full contents of the
- 2 R.C.M. 706 Board.
- 3 Two, the defense intends to elicit expert testimony as to
- 4 the mental condition of PFC Manning through Dr. Moulton during
- 5 sentencing proceedings.
- 6 The Law:
- 7 One, PFC Manning has a privilege to prevent any statements
- 8 made by him at a mental examination ordered under R.C.M. 706 and any
- 9 derivative evidence obtained through the use of such a statement from
- 10 being received in to evidence against him on the issue of guilt or
- 11 innocence, or during sentencing proceedings, M.R.E. 302(a).
- 12 Two, there are two exceptions to the M.R.E. 302(a)
- 13 privilege:
- One, there is no privilege when the accused first
- 15 introduces into evidence such statements or derivative evidence and;
- 16 Two, if the Court allows the defense to present expert
- 17 testimony as to the mental condition of the accused, the expert
- 18 witness for the govern -- an expert witness for the government may
- 19 testify as to reasons for his/her conclusions, but such testimony may
- 20 not extend to statements of PFC Manning, excepted as provided under
- 21 Exception 1, M.R.E. 302(b) 1 and 2.
- Three, M.R.E. 302(c) requires the Court to order release to
- 23 the government of the full contents of the R.C.M. 706 report, minus

- 1 PFC Manning's statement, if the defense offers expert testimony
- 2 concerning the mental condition of PFC Manning. M.R.E. 302(c) and
- 3 relevant part.
- 4 Four, the Court should exercise reasonable control over the
- 5 mode and order of examining witnesses and presenting evidence, as to
- 6 make these procedures effective for determining the truth and avoid
- 7 wasting time.
- 8 M.R.E. 611(a) 1 and 2, United States v. Bledsoe,
- 9 26 MJ 97, Court of Military Appeals, 1988.
- 10 Conclusions of law:
- One, M.R.E. 302(c) does not distinguish between merits and
- 12 sentencing. The rule requires the Court to order the defense to
- 13 release to government the full contents of the R.C.M. 706 Report,
- 14 minus PFC Manning's statements, if the defense offers expert
- 15 testimony concerning the mental condition of PFC Manning.
- 16 Two, the defense has advised the Court of its intent to
- 17 introduce expert testimony concerning the mental condition of PFC
- 18 Manning through Dr. Moulton on Wednesday, 14 August 2013.
- 19 Ruling:
- The defense will release to the government the full
- 21 contents of the R.C.M. 706 Report, minus PFC Manning's statements, to
- 22 the government no later than 2100, 9:00, 9 p.m. today, 12 August

- 1 2013, to allow sentencing proceedings to proceed without unnecessary
- 2 delay.
- 3 So ordered this 12th day of August 2013.
- 4 Mr. Coombs, is the defense going have any issues with the
- 5 time line provided by the Court?
- 6 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Potentially, Your Honor, yes. Two things, to
- 7 redact the statements, plus we would ask that the Court look at the
- 8 706 Report in camera in order to, I guess, approve of our redactions.
- 9 Because the defense would believe there are several portions that, or
- 10 statements are derivative from PFC Manning's statements.
- 11 MJ: All right. So if we do that, I'm noticing here it's 1600.
- 12 Does the defense not believe that they can get that done by 2100
- 13 tonight or do you want to give that to me in the morning to take a
- 14 look at and we'll release it at that point?
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor, the latter, in the morning.
- MJ: All right. Government, do you have any objection to that
- 17 alteration of the time line?
- 18 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No issue with the alteration, ma'am, just that
- 19 the rule doesn't necessarily distinguish about derivative evidence.
- 20 It's if the report doesn't use the actual statement, the statements
- 21 get removed. But if it's in camera view -- we, sure ----
- 22 MJ: Well are you asking -- are you going to be removing
- 23 anything but statements?

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Statements or the -- there are sections in
- 2 which they are essentially rephrasing something that has been said to
- 3 them. So they've got a section that is statements of PFC Manning and
- 4 then other sections that we believe, when the Court looks at it,
- 5 would be derivative statements of that.
- 6 MJ: All right. So we're starting at 0930 tomorrow. Then how
- 7 about by 0830 tomorrow, when you have these redactions for me,
- $oldsymbol{8}$ explain to me what you believe are statements and what you believe
- 9 are derivative evidence coming from the statements ----
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor.
- 11 MJ: --- so I know what I'm looking at with the redactions and
- 12 I'll take a look at that. The witness isn't coming until tomorrow
- 13 night; is that correct?
- 14 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: That was original understanding, yes,
- 15 ma'am.
- 16 MJ: Okav. So we'll go ahead -- I will go ahead and amend this
- 17 order, then, to include to change the time line to what was just
- 18 discussed and to clarify that the defense will be giving the Court
- 19 the original and then the redacted with two distinctions between
- 20 statements and what you believe are paraphrased statements,
- 21 basically.
- 23 MJ: And that will be by 0830 tomorrow morning?

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor.
- 2 MJ: Okay. Anything else we need to address before we recess
- 3 the court?
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 5 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am.
- 6 MJ: All right. Court is in recess.
- 7 [The court-martial recessed at 1558, 12 August 2013.]
- 8 [END OF PAGE]

- 1 [The court-martial was called to order at 0934, 13 August 2013.]
- 2 MJ: Court is called to order. Major Fein, please account for
- 3 the parties.
- 4 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. All parties when the Court last
- 5 recessed are again present with the following exception: Captain
- 6 Morrow is absent, Captain Overgaard is present.
- 7 Also, as of 0923 this morning, there are 16 members of the
- 8 media at the Media Operation Center, one stenographer, no media in
- 9 the courtroom, 19 spectators in the courtroom, and no spectators in
- 10 the overflow trailer, although it will remain available all day.
- 11 MJ: All right. At this point have there been any additional
- 12 exhibits filed?
- 13 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am.
- 14 MJ: I met briefly with counsel for an R.C.M. 802 conference
- 15 this morning and just to discuss scheduling and other logistics in
- 16 the case. Initially we were going to go forward with a telephonic
- 17 witness. There have been some technical issues with respect to that
- 18 witness. So what the Court is going to do is, my ruling on the
- 19 Defense Motion for Appropriate Relief under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4) for
- 20 Rear Admiral Donegan and Major General McKenzie objections is ready,
- 21 so I will go ahead and announce that. And then following that,
- 22 pursuant to our litigation yesterday, Mr. Coombs had sent the Court
- 23 via email last night some -- the R.C.M. 706 reported issue with

- 1 proposed redactions. I have couple of questions about those
- 2 redactions. So the way we will handle that is, I hold an ex parte
- 3 session with defense counsel. What that means is, it's just myself
- 4 and the defense counsel in the session. The public leaves and the
- 5 government is not part of that session, because it's talking about
- 6 records that the government might not get to see. So it's going to
- 7 be a very brief session. We will just take a brief recess and go
- 8 into the ex parte session with defense counsel, then we are going to
- 9 reconvene and go forward with the witnesses. Does either side desire
- 10 to comment on that proposal?
- 11 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor.
- 12 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am.
- MJ: All right. The ruling, on 9 August 2013, in accordance
- 14 with the procedures established in the Court's ruling defense motion
- 15 for appropriate relief under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4), Appellate Exhibit
- 16 639; the defense filed five objections to the testimony of Rear
- 17 Admiral Donegan and Major General McKenzie. The defense objections
- 18 were from testimony given in closed session and the substance of the
- 19 objections is classified. The government compiled a joint classified
- 20 filing, including the defense objections and the government responses
- 21 to the objections. That's Appellate Exhibit 654 Alpha. The
- 22 unclassified redacted joint classified filing is at Appellate Exhibit
- 23 654 Bravo. The Court's ruling on each objection is as follows:

Objection one: Rear Admiral Donegan testified about actual 1 2 WikiLeaks releases and actual harm to national security caused in two countries as a result of the releases. This is evidence that is 3 directly related to and resulting from PFC Manning's offenses. It is 4 5 admissible aggravation evidence under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4). Objection two: The testimony involved steps by the United 6 States Government and agencies therein to mitigate potential damage 7 caused by public dissemination of information given to WikiLeaks by 8 PFC Manning. It is directly related to, resulting from PFC Manning's 9 offenses. The Court ruled such evidence is admissible aggravation 10 11 evidence on 5 August 2013, Appellate Exhibit 639. Objection three: The testimony that particular WikiLeaks 12 disclosure of information given by PFC Manning occurred was one of 13 several direct causes of the harm identified in this objection. The 14 testimony is evidence that PFC Manning's offenses were a proximate 15 cause of the harm. This is evidence that's directly related to or 16 resulting from PFC Manning's offenses. The evidence is admissible 17 under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4). 18 Objection four: The factual testimony in the government's 19 answer to the defense objection is admissible aggravation under --20 evidence under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4). The particular quotation in the 21 defense objection is speculative and is not admissible under M.R.E. 22

403 and the Court will not consider it.

23

Objection five: The opinion at issue was elicited during 1 2 the Court's questioning of Major General McKenzie regarding other issues. The witness was not qualified as an expert. The Court will 3 not consider the opinion under M.R.E. 403. 4 5 M.R.E. 403 analysis. The probative value of those portions of the testimony in evidence ruled admissible as aggravation evidence under R.C.M. 1001(b)(4) is not substantially outweighed by the danger 7 of unfair prejudice under M.R.E. 403. The Court has applied M.R.E. 403 to each of the objections and limited the scope of the testimony 9 to matters directly related to or resulting from PFC Manning's 10 offenses and not otherwise speculative or unduly prejudicial. 11 So ordered this 13th day of August 2013. 12 All right. Is there anything else we need to address at 13 14 this time before we take about a 20-minute recess; we'll recess until 10:00 o'clock. I'll hold that ex parte hearing and we'll come back 15 on the record at 10:00 o'clock. Is there anything else we need to 16 17 address? CDC[MR. COOMBS]: No, Your Honor. 18 TC[MAJ FEIN]: No, ma'am. 19 MJ: All right. Then Court is in recess until 10:00 o'clock. 20 Defense Counsel, please remain. 21 22 [The court-martial recessed at 0939, 13 August 2013.]

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[END OF PAGE]

Pages 12739 through 12741 of this transcript are unclassified. This session (13 August 2013, Session 1) is sealed for Reason 4, Military Judge's Seal Order dated 17 January 2014 and stored in the original Record of Trial.

- 1 [The court-martial was called to order at 1001, 13 August 2013.]
- 2 MJ: Court is called to order. Let the record reflect all
- 3 parties are present when the Court last recessed are again present in
- 4 Court. Mr. Coombs, are you ready to proceed?
- 5 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense has marked as
- 6 a, I believe it's 657 Bravo, the redacted copy of the R.C.M. 706
- 7 report and we have provided a copy to the government.
- 8 MJ: Thank you.
- 9 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, the defense calls Captain Tanya
- 10 Gaab to the stand, telephonic.
- 11 Captain Gaab?
- 12 WIT: Yes, this is her.
- 13 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Captain Gaab, this is Attorney David Coombs.
- 14 If you would, please, stand and raise your right hand the trial
- 15 counsel is going to swear you in. Okay?
- 16 WIT: Okay.
- 17 CAPTAIN TANYA GAAB, U.S. Army, was called as a witness for the
- 18 defense, was sworn, and testified telephonically as follows:
- 19 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 20 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT Von ELTEN]:
- 21 Q. Are you in a room by yourself?
- 22 A. Yeah.
- Q. Are you able to testify freely?

- 1 A. Yeah.
- 2 Q. Do you have any paper or notes in front of you?
- A. I have paper.
- 4 Q. Could you please place that underneath your seat?
- 5 A. Yeah. Okay.
- 6 Q. And if anything should interrupt your testimony please
- 7 notify the Court.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. For the record, you're Captain Tanya Gaab, of the 319th MI
- 10 Battalion.
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. Thank you.
- 13 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 14 Q. Captain Gaab, what is your MOS?
- 15 A. 35 Delta.
- Q. And how long have you been that MOS?
- 17 A. Since June 2008.
- 18 Q. Were you prior enlisted?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And what was your MOS as an enlisted?
- 21 A. 97 Echo, Interrogative Linguist.
- Q. And how long were you an enlisted?
- 23 A. Three years.

- Q. And what was your highest rank as an enlisted?
- A. Specialist.
- 3 O. How did you obtain your commission?
- 4 A. West Point.
- 5 Q. What year did you graduate from West Point?
- 6 A. 2008.
- 7 Q. When did you become part of HHC, 2nd Brigade Combat Team?
- 8 A. In July 2008.
- 9 Q. And what was your duty position?
- 10 A. I was the security manager in Abugard.
- 11 Q. What did you do basically on a daily basis?
- 12 A. Process clearances.
- 13 Q. Can you explain for a moment what that might involve?
- 14 A. So, if somebody applied for a clearance I would process the
- 15 paperwork and bring it up to Division and if there were any
- 16 corrections that needed to be made in anybody's application then I
- 17 would just help them make the corrections so that their chronological
- 18 time lines were matched up and I would bring that paperwork to
- 19 Division and then if we had them returned back from Division the
- 20 corrections I would bring it or give it to the subordinate units.
- 21 Q. Did you also do read-ons, if someone was say TS-SCI?
- 22 A. Correct. I would coordinate read-ons.
- 23 Q. How long did you hold that position?

- 1 A. Until -- Probably about one year.
- 2 Q. Where did you go after that?
- A. To BOLC II and BOLC III.
- 4 Q. Can explain what that was for?
- 5 A. So, BOLC II is the initial officer, kind of, Basic Officer
- 6 Leadership Course where you do tactical training and then BOLC III is
- 7 the Intelligence Officer Course.
- 8 Q. Roughly how long were you at BOLC II and BOLC III?
- 9 A. I believe it was around 6 months total.
- 10 O. Then after completing BOLC III what did you do?
- 11 A. I went back to 2nd Brigade and deployed to Iraq.
- 12 Q. When did you deploy for Iraq?
- 13 A. I believe it was around February 2009. Excuse me, 2010.
- 14 O. When you deployed in February 2010, what was your job?
- 15 A. I became the CIDNE Team Lead in the Brigade S-2 shop.
- 16 O. Can you explain what you did as the CIDNE Team Leader in
- 17 general?
- 18 A. Analyzed all records -- So, we analyzed records that fell
- 19 under that sector and then reported it to our Division Chief and
- 20 occasionally briefed products to the Brigade Commander and attended
- 21 certain intelligence meetings with our subordinate battalions.
- 22 O. How many Soldiers did you have working for you?
- 23 A. Two.

- 1 Q. Who were they?
- 2 A. I'm sorry, I don't remember their names.
- 3 Q. If I said Specialist Cooley, Specialist Fields, would that
- 4 sound familiar?
- 5 A. Special Cooley and -- what was the other name?
- 6 O. Fields. Or Shim.
- 7 A. No, that's not correct. It was a female Soldier. I had a
- 8 female Soldier.
- 9 Q. Did PFC Manning ever do any work for you?
- 10 A. Yes, occasionally, if we had work that our Soldiers
- 11 couldn't complete or any of our Soldiers were not there I would ask
- 12 Manning to do specific tasks.
- 13 Q. How often would you, I guess, have interaction with PFC
- 14 Manning?
- 15 A. Every day.
- 16 Q. And based upon your observations, in general, what type of
- 17 duty performer was PFC Manning?
- 18 A. As a Soldier he -- I believe he failed his PT test. He --
- 19 I think he had some incidents of being disrespectful. He was never
- 20 disrespectful to me personally. As an analyst, I can't really say
- 21 that he was good or bad. He didn't work for me directly. When I did
- 22 give him a task he wasn't the best Soldier in getting the task done
- 23 and doing it to the standard.

- 1 Q. Do you recall ever saying that you thought he was very good
- 2 at producing analytical products?
- 3 A. I think he's good as an analyst. I don't think he's good
- 4 or I don't think he was good producing the products and getting it
- 5 done in a timely manner. He was smart in the analysis but I don't
- 6 think that equates to briefing the products.
- 7 Q. Do you recall ever saying if you had any problems with
- 8 Excel or PowerPoint you could always count on him to help you out and
- 9 he did it?
- 10 A. That's correct, yes. He was good at computer type things
- 11 like that and I did ask him on occasion to help.
- Q. Were you ever informed of an incident involving PFC Manning
- 13 and Specialist Padgett?
- 14 A. I heard when I got there, not from any official source,
- 15 that he had an angry outburst where he flipped a desk and a computer
- 16 broke.
- 17 O. Do you know what was done in response to PFC Manning's
- 18 actions when he was counseled by Specialist Padgett?
- 19 MJ: Hold on just a moment. This is Colonel Lind, the Judge.
- 20 Yes.
- 21 ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Captain Gaab testified that she arrived in
- 22 February of 2010, after it she doesn't have any personal knowledge.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: This is what I'll ask her. The question
- 2 goes to does she know what was done with PFC Manning after his
- 3 actions when he was counseled?
- 4 MJ: Overruled. Let's see if she knows.
- 5 Q. So, Captain Gaab, the question to you is, do you know what
- 6 was done in response to PFC Manning's actions when he was counseled
- 7 by Specialist Padgett? So, if you know, you can say, yes, I know
- 8 something was done or I know nothing was done or I have no idea?
- 9 A. I don't know what was done. I have no idea.
- 10 Q. All right. Within the S-2 section, who was in charge of
- 11 administrative details and supervision of Soldiers?
- 12 A. Sergeant Adkins.
- 13 O. Was he a master sergeant at the time?
- 14 A. Yes, he was.
- 15 Q. And why was Master Sergeant Adkins in charge of supervision
- 16 of Soldiers?
- 17 A. His position was Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the
- 18 S-2 Shop, so that fell within the purview of those duties.
- 19 O. Were there other NCOs in the S-2 Section?
- 20 A. Yes, there were.
- 21 O. Who were they?
- 22 A. Sergeant Balonek and Sergeant Madaras also worked in the S-
- 23 2 Section I believe for a time. And there was another E5 that worked

- 1 out in the TOC that worked -- that was in the S-2 Shop but worked in
- 2 the TOC. So, we weren't directly -- I don't remember his name.
- 3 Q. Did you see a difference in responsibilities over enlisted
- 4 Soldiers between Master Sergeant Adkins and Staff Sergeant Balonek?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And what did you see?
- 7 A. Staff Sergeant Balonek was also a team lead, so he was the
- 8 direct team lead. He was more technical control over the Soldiers.
- 9 You know, he would deal with the products that they made and any
- 10 other kind of duties that fell within each area. The Soldier part of
- 11 it fell under Sergeant Adkins.
- 12 Q. What would Sergeant Adkins do, as far as the Soldiering
- 13 part; what do you mean by that?
- 14 A. He would administer leave, counsel the Soldiers. At least
- 15 he was in charge of their physical training, there was a point where
- 16 the Soldiers were doing poorly so he started a physical training
- 17 program and if there was any other problems with them it would be him
- 18 that was the lead between the S-2 shop and the HHC, First Sergeant.
- 19 Q. Now I want to ask you a few questions about an incident
- 20 between PFC Manning and Specialist Showman. Okay?
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. Now in the early May 2010 timeframe, did you find out about
- 23 an incident involving PFC Manning and Specialist Showman?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And how did you find out about that?
- 3 A. So, I left my shift at around 10pm or 10:30pm at night and
- 4 then I went to my CHU and woke up in the morning and went to shower
- 5 where I met Chief Ehresman who told me about an incident where PFC
- 6 Manning had punched Specialist Showman. And so when I got back to
- 7 the SCIF -- I went back to the SCIF immediately because the incident
- 8 had happened.
- 9 Q. After going back to the SCIF, did there come a time when
- 10 you saw PFC Manning?
- 11 A. I didn't see him immediately in the SCIF. I saw Specialist
- 12 Showman and some of the other Soldiers. I gave -- After speaking to
- 13 Specialist Showman and asking her what happened and what actions were
- 14 taken I told her to contact the MPs and then I went looking for
- 15 Specialist Manning -- PFC Manning who was supposedly walking around
- 16 with Sergeant Adkins and that's where I found him walking around
- 17 outside.
- 18 Q. And from what you knew at that point had PFC Manning been
- 19 removed from the T-SCIF, as far as no longer being allowed to go
- 20 back?
- 21 A. No.

- 1 Q. And did you ever speak to Master Sergeant Adkins about why
- 2 PFC Manning was not removed from his position at the T-SCIF at that
- 3 point?
- 4 A. Yes. As soon as I found Manning and Sergeant Adkins I
- 5 asked him what was going on. He told me that he had taken Specialist
- 6 Manning to the TMC or medical office to see if he was okay because
- 7 Specialist Showman had put him on the ground after he assaulted her
- 8 and I asked him what else he did and at that point he had gone to
- 9 sleep in his CHU and then woken up in the morning and was walking
- 10 around with Sergeant Adkins.
- 11 Q. Did Master Sergeant Adkins indicate if anything was going
- 12 to be done with the company commander at that point?
- 13 A. No. At that point I was under the impression -- he told me
- 14 that was what had been done. At that point I took Specialist
- 15 Manning's rifle away and I told him to sit in the brief without his
- 16 rifle and into the SCIF and I asked him -- Specialist Showman to
- 17 change the Cypher locks and told everybody that he wasn't allowed
- 18 back in the SCIF. I came back out and told Sergeant Adkins and
- 19 Specialist Manning to stay there and I don't remember if they
- 20 followed me to HHC if they stayed there but I went to HHC immediately
- 21 to contact Captain Freeburg who was the company commander at the time
- 22 to let him know what had happened.

- 1 Q. Why did you feel that you needed to take those steps that
- 2 you just told us about?
- 3 A. Because when I came in a Soldier had been assaulted and
- 4 Specialist Showman had a welt on her face and not one person had
- 5 contacted MPs or JAG or the Company or anybody else to let them know
- 6 that a Soldier had been assaulted. Up until that point, Specialist
- 7 Manning had been acting strangely and so at that point this was just
- 8 the straw that broke the camel's back and at that point I felt that
- 9 Specialist Manning was a threat to other people and himself and that
- 10 he needed to be removed from the SCIF immediately and his weapon
- 11 taken away so he couldn't hurt himself or somebody else.
- -
- Q. Did you actually go speak with the company commander?
- 13 A. Yes, I did.
- 14 Q. And why did you do that?
- 15 A. Because I was under the impression that he hadn't been
- 16 notified. When I was talking to the company commander I think the
- 17 first sergeant walked up and said something about, we've got this. I
- 18 told Captain Freeburg, I said, I don't know if it has been relayed to
- 19 you this is an accusation but this isn't just a Soldier being
- 20 stressed out. This is a Soldier who is a homicide or suicide risk.
- 21 I honestly believe he's going to hurt somebody. I think we need to
- 22 remove him and have him monitored at all times.
- 23 Q. What was done after you went and spoke with the Commander?

- 1 A. After I went and spoke with the commander I went back to
- 2 the SCIF to ensure that the Soldiers knew not to have any contact
- 3 with Manning and that the Cypher lock was changed and that Specialist
- 4 Showman was going to draft a DEROG immediately so that he would be
- 5 restricted from classified information and so that -- transferred to
- 6 Captain Freeburg to be signed.
- 7 Q. Prior to you directing Specialist Showman to draft up the
- 8 DEROG, had any action been taken on doing a DEROG?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Why did you feel the need to do the DEROG?
- 11 A. Although I wasn't in Manning's chain of command and I
- 12 didn't really have any authority in the SCIF I felt like at that
- 13 point things had gone way too far and although I was told he wasn't -
- 14 there's a point where you have to take action and I wasn't the
- 15 leader of those Soldiers but I was a leader so I felt like it was the
- 16 only way to protect people. I thought he was a physical risk to the
- 17 Soldiers and I thought it would be a good way to keep him from doing
- 18 anything to harm anybody else.
- 19 Q. You indicated that you were told it was not your lane. Who
- 20 told you it wasn't your lane?
- 21 A. Previously I had inquired about Soldiers and some of the
- 22 other things and I don't remember it was said outright or implied but
- 23 that it was an NCO lane and NCOs had it and it's not -- it wasn't

2 authority or anything like that. 3 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Captain Gaab, the Government is going to have a few questions for you, okay? 5 WIT: Okay. CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you. 7 MJ: Government? ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Nothing from the government, ma'am. 9 MJ: Temporary or permanent excusal? ATC[CPT von ELTEN]: Permanent, Your Honor. 10 11 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permanent, Your Honor. 12 [The witness was permanently excused and the telephone call was disconnected.] 13 14 MJ: Mr. Coombs, are you ready to proceed with the next witness. 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense calls CW2 Joshua Ehresman. 16

really our lane. So, I wasn't given any kind of chain of command or

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[END OF PAGE]

- 1 CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 JOSHUA EHRESMAN, was recalled as a witness
- 2 for the defense, was reminded he was still under oath, and testified
- 3 as follows:

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

- 5 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 6 Q. And if you could remind us, how long have you been in the
- 7 military?
- 8 A. 19 and a half years, sir.
- 9 Q. What was your enlisted rank prior to becoming a warrant.
- 10 A. Sergeant first class.
- 11 Q. Have you had or held positions that require responsibility
- 12 or supervision -- let me rephrase that. Have you had supervisory
- 13 responsibility positions over Soldiers in the past?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. How many, roughly, would you say you have had, positions?
- 16 A. I have held all positions up to first sergeant.
- 17 O. And I imagine you counseled Soldiers before?
- 18 A. Yes, sir.
- 19 Q. And why would you, in general, do that?
- 20 A. Positive, negative, direction, various reasons, sir.
- 21 O. And when you arrived at the 2nd BCT, did you receive an
- 22 initial written counseling explaining your duties and
- 23 responsibilities to you?

- 1 A. No, sir.
- 2 Q. Do you know why not?
- 3 A. I do not know.
- 4 Q. Was that something that you would expect to receive?
- 5 A. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. Within the S-2 Section, did you see yourself as part of the
- 7 chain of command over Soldiers?
- 8 A. No, sir.
- 9 Q. And can you explain to the Judge why not?
- 10 A. Because I did inquire about my leadership responsibility to
- 11 both Master Sergeant Adkins and Major Clausen and both of them told
- 12 me that I was in charge of intelligence products, not in charge of
- 13 the Soldiers.
- 14 O. Did you challenge that assumption that you would have no
- 15 responsibility for leadership or supervision of Soldiers?
- 16 A. Yes, sir.
- 17 O. And why did you challenge that?
- 18 A. Because I felt, as a officer, that I was still in charge of
- 19 it and in my past I took charge of Soldiers. So I wanted to be in
- 20 charge of the shop. If I was responsible for it, I wanted to have
- 21 responsibility.
- 22 Q. And who did you speak to when you challenged that
- 23 assumption that you would have no responsibility?

- 1 A. The same two that I just said, sir, Master Sergeant Adkins
- 2 and Major Clausen.
- 3 Q. When you went to them, how did they respond to you?
- 4 A. They told me that I just take care of the intelligence
- 5 products and they would handle the rest.
- 6 Q. How often did you bring that subject up with Major Clausen
- 7 and Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 8 A. At least twice, sir.
- 9 Q. And on each occasion were you told essentially the same
- 10 thing?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 O. Did the guidance that you received from Major Clausen and
- 13 Major -- excuse me, and Master Sergeant Adkins comport with what your
- 14 experience was as a non-commissioned officer?
- 15 A. No, sir.
- 16 O. And why not?
- 17 A. Normally the warrant is in charge of that section, but what
- 18 their leadership style, the way they did it, they didn't require me
- 19 to do that.
- 20 O. During your discussions with Major Clausen were you ever
- 21 told that you had or that you were no longer a NCO, you needed simply
- 22 to focus on your duties to collect intelligence?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.

- 1 Q. And when was this?
- 2 A. When I first got there.
- 3 Q. Based upon your observation, how would you describe the
- 4 leadership within the S-2 Section, the leadership provided within the
- 5 S-2 Section?
- 6 A. I thought it was good, sir.
- 7 Q. And why would you say that?
- 8 A. They had general concern for the Soldiers and the other
- 9 leaders within the ranks, sir.
- 10 Q. From your perspective, did the S-2 Section foster a kind of
- 11 keep-everything-in-the-house attitude?
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- 13 Q. And what do you mean by that?
- 14 A. We tried to deal with at the lowest level which was taught
- 15 to us by the military.
- 16 Q. Did anyone ever complain about not taking something outside
- 17 of the S-2 Section?
- 18 A. A few times, yes, sir.
- 19 Q. And during the deployment, I want to talk to you about an
- 20 incident that you witnessed, okay?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- 22 O. Between PFC Manning and Specialist Padgett. Were you
- 23 present when Specialist Padgett was counseling PFC Manning?

- 1 A. Yes, sir.
- 2 Q. And when was this?
- 3 A. You are asking for dates, sir?
- 4 Q. Roughly. Was it December 2009?
- 5 A. It was 2009.
- 6 Q. December 2009?
- 7 A. I believe so, sir.
- 8 Q. And from your memory what happened?
- 9 A. I know Padgett was giving him a corrective training
- 10 counseling, I believe it was for being late or something -- some sort
- 11 like that. And PFC Manning I think it was Specialist Manning at the
- 12 time, got a little upset what was going on and he dumped a table and
- 13 then ----
- 14 Q. And we'll stop there. You say dumped a table. What do you
- 15 mean he did?
- 16 A. Well, he got angry and he slammed his fist on the table.
- 17 And he grabbed onto the table and he lifted it and put his arm under
- 18 it and lifted it over and dumped the computers onto the floor.
- 19 Q. What size of the table are we talking about?
- 20 A. The same size as the prosecution's desk.
- 21 Q. So, roughly, maybe 8 by 3?
- 22 A. Yes, sir.
- 23 O. Once he did that what happened?

- 1 A. There was a little commotion and I went and detained him.
- 2 Q. Before you detained PFC Manning, then Specialist Manning,
- 3 did you see him do anything?
- 4 A. I felt that he was going towards the weapons rack and I
- 5 felt that I needed to detain him.
- 6 Q. Why did you feel that way?
- 7 A. Because he was very visually distraught and he had already
- 8 dumped a table filled with government computers. So you don't know
- 9 what's going to happen so I acted at what I thought I should act.
- 10 Q. And when you say you restrained him, what did you do?
- 11 A. I grabbed him and put him in a full nelson and set him on a
- 12 bench.
- 13 O. And a full nelson, that terminology, is that a wrestling
- 14 terminology?
- 15 A. Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. And when you say full nelson, is that -- can you describe
- 17 what you did?
- 18 A. Yes. You put both arms under the armpits and on the back
- 19 of his head. And then lock your fingers behind their head.
- 20 Q. All right. And once you did that, what happened?
- 21 A. Me and him talked. I told him to relax. When he relaxed,
- 22 I let him sit down. And we talked like adults. And then he said,
- 23 I'm calm, let me go. I let him go. We sat down and talked. We

- 1 talked it out. I told Padgett to leave. And he calmed down and we
- 2 walked out of the SCIF and had a cigarette.
- 3 Q. And based upon what you saw, was this reported to Master
- 4 Sergeant Adkins at any time?
- 5 A. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. And how do you know that?
- 7 A. I told Master Sergeant Adkins, Padgett told Sergeant
- 8 Adkins, everybody told Sergeant Adkins, and I believe he went to
- 9 mental health at that time.
- 10 Q. From your perspective, did you see any, I guess besides
- 11 mental health, did you see any corrective training or any sort of
- 12 UCMJ action due to what occurred during the counseling session?
- 13 A. No. sir.
- 14 Q. Do you know why not?
- 15 A. No, sir.
- 16 O. From your perspective, was that type of conduct that you
- 17 witnessed something that was acceptable within the T-SCIF?
- 18 A. No. sir.
- 19 O. And why?
- 20 A. Because he dumped the computer, or the table full with
- 21 government computers.
- Q. Are you familiar with what a DEROG is?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.

- 1 Q. And how so?
- 2 A. After all this I have been put in roles where I have been
- 3 led to advise or come in contact with DEROGs, sir.
- 4 Q. So prior to this deployment were you familiar with what a
- 5 DEROG was?
- 6 A. No, sir.
- 7 Q. Now based upon your understanding what a DEROG is, do you
- 8 have an understanding when you would file a DEROG?
- 9 A. Yes, sir.
- 10 O. And when is that?
- 11 A. After an incident like that would have taken place.
- 12 Q. And you say "like that", the incident that you witnessed
- 13 with PFC Manning and Specialist Padgett?
- 14 A. Yes, sir.
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you.
- 16 MJ: Government?
- 17 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: Yes, ma'am.
- 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 19 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT Overgaard]:
- 20 O. Chief Ehresman, now you said on direct that you tried to
- 21 handle things at the lowest level. What did you mean by that?
- 22 A. In the military you are told to handle at the lowest level
- 23 so you don't overkill an incident.

- 1 Q. So you were told by Major Clausen and Master Sergeant
- 2 Adkins that you were not responsible for any Soldier's misconduct?
- 3 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 4 Q. And what was your primary mission at 2/10 during '09/'10
- 5 deployment?
- A. Was product supervision, ma'am.
- 7 Q. So you were told to focus on that work product?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And Master Sergeant Adkins would handle the Soldier issues
- 10 so you could focus on your mission?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 12 O. Which was?
- 13 A. Intelligence.
- 0. Okay. And this was your -- The '09-'10, that was your
- 15 third deployment?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q. And in your opinion, was the S-2 shop run in orderly
- 18 manner?
- 19 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 20 Q. And Master Sergeant Adkins ran his shop with a direct line
- 21 between the Soldiers and him?
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 23 O. And there was no issues with that?

- 1 A. No, ma'am.
- 2 Q. In fact, all the leadership at 2/10 had an open-door
- 3 policy, didn't they?
- 4 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 5 Q. And it seemed to work for the shop?
- 6 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. It was actually a very close shop?
- A. Very close.
- 9 Q. And how was Captain Lim as the S-2?
- 10 A. He was awesome.
- 11 Q. He did a good job?
- 12 A. Yes, he did a terrific job.
- 13 Q. Were they all the enlisted trained appropriately before you
- 14 deployed?
- 15 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 16 Q. Was someone always available for junior analysts to ask
- 17 questions to when you were in theater?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. You said now you know about DEROGs. At the time you
- 20 didn't?
- 21 A. Right.
- 22 Q. And you said this might be something that you would do a
- 23 DEROG for?

- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q. But you could see why somebody wouldn't do a DEROG for it
- 3 as well, couldn't you?
- 4 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 5 Q. You typically do DEROGs for trust related issues in your
- 6 opinion?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. So it could go either way?
- 9 A. It could.
- 10 Q. And you wouldn't DEROG someone for going to mental health,
- 11 would you?
- 12 A. No, ma'am.
- 13 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: Sorry, I'm just looking at my notes. No
- 14 further questions.
- 15 MJ: Redirect?
- 16 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Briefly, Your Honor.
- 17 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 18 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 19 O. If you recall, when did Captain Lim become to S-2?
- 20 A. I believe it was in January, sir.
- 21 O. So after this incident?
- 22 A. Yes, sir.
- 23 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you.

MJ: I have a couple of questions for you.

EXAMINATION BY THE COURT-MARTIAL

3 Questions by the military judge:

- 4 Q. You just testified earlier in your testimony that you
- 5 wanted to be part of the leadership chain. How did you envision that
- 6 would work?

2

- 7 A. Well, I was a new officer so I wasn't sure of my role as a
- 8 warrant officer. And I previously held the position of first
- 9 sergeant, so I went to -- since I was the fusion OIC and was
- 10 responsible for everything coming out there, I wanted direct
- 11 leadership and supervision of all of the Soldiers in there, as well
- 12 as the leadership, so I can have an impact on whether they listen to
- 13 me or not. Because if you don't have that boss role, sometimes they
- 14 blow you off, because you are not feeding their NCOER or their OER or
- 15 whatever.
- 16 O. How were you envisioning that would work with Master
- 17 Sergeant Adkins?
- 18 A. Well, he would be above and running the complete shop, like
- 19 overall paperwork and stuff like that, whereas, I would be
- 20 responsible for the leaders within the shop and the junior level, the
- 21 lower level.
- 22 Q. And this was the procedure that Master Sergeant Adkins and
- 23 Major Clausen said, no, we don't want to do that?

- A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Okay. When PFC Manning flipped the table. And how many
- 3 government computers were on the table?
- 4 A. There were two computers, ma'am.
- 5 Q. Large computers or laptops?
- 6 A. Lap -- Well, one had a screen and the other one was a
- 7 laptop.
- 8 Q. Do you know if anything happened to those computers as a
- 9 result of the ----
- 10 A. I don't remember anything happening to them specifically,
- 11 ma'am.
- 12 Q. Did they break?
- 13 A. I know they fell. I don't remember if they worked or not
- 14 after that.
- MJ: Any follow up based on my questions?
- 17 ATC [CPT OVERGAARD]: No, ma'am.
- 18 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 19 the courtroom.]
- 20 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, the defense calls CW2 Kyle
- 21 Balonek.
- 22 [END OF PAGE]

- 1 CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 KYLE BALONEK, was recalled as a witness for
- 2 the defense, was reminded he was still under oath, and testified as
- 3 follows:
- 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 5 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- ${\bf 6}$ $\,$ Q. Chief, I know you testified to this before, but just
- 7 refresh our memory, when did you become a warrant officer?
- 8 A. August 2010.
- 9 Q. And prior to becoming a warrant officer you were a 35 Fox?
- 10 A. Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. And what was your highest enlisted rank?
- 12 A. I was a staff sergeant promotable.
- Q. Were you ever part of -- Well you are a part of HHC, 2nd
- 14 Brigade, correct?
- 15 A. Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. And who was the NCOIC of the S-2 Section?
- 17 A. It would be Master Sergeant Adkins.
- 18 Q. As the NCOIC did Master Sergeant Adkins ever counsel you in
- 19 writing on his expectation of you as the leader within the S-2
- 20 Section?
- 21 A. Occasionally.
- 22 Q. Did he do that when you first arrived?
- 23 A. I don't think so.

- O. Is that something that you would expect as a warrant
- 2 officer coming into a shop?
- 3 A. As a warrant officer or as an NCO, sir?
- 4 Q. As an NCO, I'm sorry. You were an NCO at the time?
- 5 A. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. And why is that?
- A. It lays the expectations of your duty performance and how
- 8 you should uphold yourself and keys to success for your NCOERs.
- 9 Q. Who was the S-2 when you deployed to Iraq?
- 10 A. In 2009, sir?
- 11 Q. Yes.
- A. Major Clausen.
- 13 O. Did Major Clausen ever counsel you in writing on his
- 14 expectations of you as a leader within the S-2 Section?
- 15 A. Not that I can recall, sir.
- 16 O. Did you feel any frustration by not being given any
- 17 guidance on the expectation of you as a leader?
- 18 A. Maybe a little, sir.
- 19 Q. Do you recall saying that was one of your biggest
- 20 frustrations?
- 21 A. It was a frustration; yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Do you recall ever saying in response to a question ---
- 23 MJ: Yes, hold on.

- 1 ATC [CPT OVERGAARD]: Objection, leading.
- 2 MJ: Finish your question and then your objection. Go ahead.
- 3 Q. Do you recall ever saying in response to a question, did
- 4 you ever receive initial counseling, honestly I cannot ever say I did
- 5 in this unit. It was kind of one of my bigger frustrations here?
- 6 MJ: Overruled. There is no other way to ask that question, go
- 7 ahead.
- 8 A. I do.
- 9 Q. Why did you say that?
- 10 A. It's tough to do what you need to do, if you don't know
- 11 what's really expected of you. That's a good way to describe it.
- 12 Q. Now let's discuss Master Sergeant Adkins' supervisory
- 13 scheme for enlisted Soldiers within your section. Okay?
- 14 A. Yes, sir.
- 15 O. Under his supervisory scheme, were you ever circumvented in
- 16 regards to Soldier issues?
- 17 A. I think one specific. There was more but it was just more
- 18 of time to be there issue.
- 19 O. Do you recall ever saying -- Do you recall ever saying that
- 20 you felt you had been circumvented by Master Sergeant Adkins when it
- 21 came to enlisted Soldier issues?
- 22 A. I believe that extends from the one instance where I had
- 23 assigned a specific time to be there and it then changed behind me.

- 1 Q. Do you recall ever saying that you felt that he had cut you
- 2 out of the loop with regards to enlisted Soldier actions?
- A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And why did you feel that way?
- 5 A. I felt like I rarely knew what was going on within the
- 6 section.
- 7 Q. Did you ever address that with Master Sergeant Adkins?
- 8 A. Once, but I was kind of let me know how the chain would
- 9 work.
- 10 Q. Do you recall ever saying Master Sergeant Adkins created a
- 11 situation where I, as the supervisor, was circumvented and the extent
- 12 to which I was being circumvented was also hidden from me?
- 13 A. Yes. I didn't know at the time.
- 14 O. And why did you feel that the extent to which you were
- 15 being circumvented was hidden from you?
- 16 A. Mostly seemed like from the particular issue that we are
- 17 dealing with now.
- 18 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm showing you what would be marked as
- 19 Exhibit QQQ for Identification. If you would, please, just glance at
- 20 that, look at all three pages, and when you're done just look up at
- 21 me.
- 22 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- Q. Are you familiar with the contents of this email?

- 1 A. Only since the investigation happened.
- 2 Q. Do you believe this is something that you should have been
- 3 made aware of?
- 4 A. Maybe, yes; maybe, no. I'm not -- I mean it seemed to have
- 5 gone up around me, but I'm not entirely sure if it needed to go
- 6 through me. It probably could have. If it had gone through the
- 7 chain of custody, but it seemed to go straight to Adkins probably as
- 8 an example of what I stated before.
- 9 Q. As one of the NCOs and having duties over PFC Manning, do
- 10 you believe this action should have been shared with you at the time
- 11 Master Sergeant Adkins received it?
- 12 A. Due to the sensitivity of it, maybe; maybe not.
- Q. Why do you feel that way?
- 14 A. If it hadn't been brought to me it would have gone to
- 15 Adkins and followed this particular chain that it looks like it
- 16 followed. I would have just been another intermediary step.
- 17 O. Well, did you feel that you had the ability to take
- 18 appropriate corrective action over one of your Soldiers under Master
- 19 Sergeant Adkins's supervisory scheme?
- 20 A. During the deployment, yes.
- 21 Q. Why did you feel that way?
- 22 A. Because I had more -- I had a little bit more control over
- 23 my team members, at least that worked on the day shift.

- 1 Q. Do you recall ever saying that Master Sergeant Adkins
- 2 supervisory scheme both pre and post deployment created a
- 3 dysfunctional supervisory scheme among the S-2 mid-level leaders and
- 4 enlisted Soldiers?
- 5 A. It changed frequently, which made it slightly confusing.
- 6 Q. Did you actually use that term "dysfunctional"?
- 7 A. I may have. It's been a while, sir.
- 8 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: All right. I'm retrieving from the witness
- 9 Defense Exhibit QQQ for Identification. I'm handing the witness
- 10 Defense Exhibit SSS for Identification. If you would, Chief, take a
- 11 look at that. Thumb through each of the pages. When you're done,
- 12 look up at me.
- 13 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- 14 Q. Do you recognize that?
- 15 A. Of course, yes, sir.
- 16 O. What is it?
- 17 A. It's my rebuttal for the letter of reprimand.
- 18 Q. If you would, take a look on Page 3. If you would read to
- 19 yourself silently, Number 3, Paragraph 3, that's labeled there,
- 20 Paragraph C right beneath that. When you're done, just look up at
- 21 me.
- 22 A. 3 and C, sir?

- 1 Q. Yeah. So, read Paragraph 3. And then, did you read C as
- 2 well?
- A. Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. Then, if you would, Paragraph 2 beneath that.
- 5 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- 6 Q. Have you finished reading that?
- 7 A. Yes, sir.
- 8 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving Defense Exhibit SSS for
- 9 Identification from the witness.
- 10 Q. Does that refresh your memory as to what you said about
- 11 whether or not it was dysfunctional?
- 12 A. A little bit; yes, sir.
- 0. A little bit?
- 14 A. Yes, sir?
- 0. Or it does?
- 16 A. It's bringing it all back. I remember.
- 17 Q. And based upon that, did you say that you believed he had a
- 18 dvsfunctional leadership scheme?
- 19 A. Based on the changes it became that way, yes, sir.
- 20 Q. And so, also based upon that do you recall saying that you
- 21 felt that that should have been -- the email that we addressed,
- 22 Defense Exhibit QQQ for Identification, do you recall indicating that
- 23 should have been shared with you?

- 1 A. If he followed the proper chain through team lead to NCOIC
- 2 it should have been.
- 3 O. And do you recall indicating that you felt that Master
- 4 Sergeant Adkins intentionally cut you out of decision making and
- 5 disciplinary issues with regards to your Soldiers?
- 6 A. That is how I felt.
- 7 Q. Why did you feel that way?
- 8 A. I felt as a junior NCO I should have had more involvement.
- 9 However, I didn't have the knowledge because it didn't go to me. It
- 10 went straight over my head.
- 11 Q. Did you ever speak directly with Major Clausen or Master
- 12 Sergeant Adkins about the supervisory scheme?
- 13 A. While we were deployed, yes.
- 14 O. And what did you say?
- 15 A. I wanted his clear quidance on what he wanted me to do and
- 16 how he wanted me to -- my part of the section.
- 17 Q. And did that change to where now you were -- obviously you
- 18 are still being circumvented; is that correct?
- 19 A. It fixed a few things, but it didn't fix the overarching
- 20 problem.
- 21 O. And did you ever speak with Captain Lim about Master
- 22 Sergeant Adkins' supervisory scheme?
- 23 A. I can't recall an incident, but I may have, sir.

- 1 Q. Do you recall ever speaking with Master Sergeant Adkins
- 2 specifically about an incident involving PFC Manning and Specialist
- 3 Padgett in December of 2009?
- 4 A. I don't think I discussed that with him, no.
- 5 Q. Were you aware of any incident between PFC Manning and
- 6 Specialist Padgett in December of 2009?
- 7 A. The counseling session?
- 8 Q. Were you aware of any incident between PFC Manning and
- 9 Specialist Padgett in December 2009?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what are you aware of?
- 12 A. I heard that he had flipped over a table during a
- 13 counseling session.
- 14 O. Now, as one of the NCOs within the S-2 Section, did you
- 15 speak to anyone about that incident?
- 16 A. Outside of the S-2?
- 17 O. Within the S-2 section?
- 18 A. It was talked about amongst the S-2.
- 19 O. You, as one of the leaders, did you speak to anybody about
- 20 that incident and what should happen?
- 21 A. Yes, it was brought to Master Sergeant Adkins.
- 22 Q. And did you do that?
- 23 A. I believe Padgett did.

- 1 O. Do you recall ever speaking with Master Sergeant Adkins at
- 2 all about that incident?
- 3 A. Not really. It happened while I was out of the office. So
- 4 the only thing I heard, I never heard -- I wasn't there, it's all
- 5 what I heard from the people who were there.
- 6 Q. Do you recall, and you tell me if you don't, indicating
- 7 that you spoke to him and he told you not to worry about it, that he
- 8 would handle it?
- 9 A. That was a common answer I usually got for anything I
- 10 brought to him.
- 11 Q. I want to make sure, that may have been the common answer.
- 12 Now that I say that, do you recall bringing that issue up to Master
- 13 Sergeant Adkins?
- 14 A. I probably did.
- 15 Q. Based upon your understanding of the incident that occurred
- 16 between PFC Manning and Specialist Padgett, do you believe that that
- 17 incident was properly handled as one of the NCOs within the S-2
- 18 Section?
- 19 A. I do. At that point PFC Manning had been going to
- 20 counseling at Behavior Health. In my eyes it was being addressed, he
- 21 was receiving some help.

- 1 O. Did you or any other leaders within the S-2 Section think
- 2 about perhaps a DEROG for the incident or perhaps temporarily
- 3 removing PFC Manning from the SCIF?
- 4 A. At that point we did not.
- 5 Q. And can you tell me why not?
- 6 A. DEROGs are -- For that particular incident it really didn't
- 7 seem DEROG worthy. I mean it was -----
- 8 Q. And why not?
- 9 A. He got upset.
- 10 Q. Right. What was your understanding of what happened to say
- 11 that wasn't DEROG worthy?
- 12 A. He got upset and turned the table. To me it equated to
- 13 like a temper tantrum.
- 14 Q. Were you aware whether or not Chief Ehresman had to
- 15 restrain PFC Manning?
- 16 A. He mentioned that he did kind of calm him down.
- 17 O. Were you aware of whether or not Chief Ehresman actually
- 18 had to put him in a full nelson to restrain him?
- 19 A. That's what he said he did. I wasn't there for the
- 20 incident though.
- 21 O. Were you aware that, whether or not Chief Ehresman did that
- 22 because he believed PFC Manning was going for a weapon?
- 23 A. That I did not know.

- 1 O. Would that change your opinion whether or not a DEROG would
- 2 be appropriate, if PFC Manning was, in fact, going for a weapon?
- 3 A. If that was, in fact, the case, then possibly, sir.
- 4 O. Why possibly?
- 5 A. It's a little dangerous to go for a weapon, if that's what,
- 6 indeed, happened.
- 7 Q. If that did happen, then would you see a DEROG as being an
- 8 appropriate action?
- 9 A. It's possible, sir.
- 10 Q. And can you explain to me your thought process, why it
- 11 would be possible and not an appropriate action?
- 12 A. Well, a DEROG isn't a function of the S-2 necessarily. A
- 13 DEROG is a function of the Commander. The Commander deems a DEROG
- 14 necessary. He directs the S-2 to draft the form.
- 15 Q. Well, then under that logic would you see a reason to
- 16 actually inform the Commander of the incident to allow the Commander
- 17 to decide whether a DEROG is appropriate?
- 18 A. Yes, sir.
- 19 Q. And why?
- 20 A. It seems like, if you're going to try to go for that
- 21 action, it's just not something you want in your section.

- 1 Q. And if, in fact, those facts were true, could you see why
- 2 maybe temporarily removing PFC Manning from the T-SCIF might be a
- 3 good idea?
- 4 A. I mean it's a possibility.
- 5 Q. Would it be a good possibility, a bad possibility or do you
- 6 have an opinion?
- 7 A. I couldn't say one way or the other, sir.
- 8 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: All right. No further questions.
- 9 MJ: Trial Counsel?
- 10 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: Yes, ma'am.
- 11 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 12 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT OVERGAARD]:
- 13 Q. You said you were out of the office when the table flipping
- 14 occurred?
- 15 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 16 O. So you don't know whether or not what actually happened
- 17 during that incident?
- 18 A. I have no firsthand knowledge of it.
- 19 Q. And you were actually out of the office quite a bit,
- 20 weren't you?
- 21 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Because you were becoming a warrant officer at the time.

- 1 A. I usually filled in for most of the meetings when Sergeant
- 2 Adkins wasn't around.
- 3 Q. And you also went to, in garrison at least, you went to the
- 4 Master Analyst Course?
- A. This is true, ma'am.
- 6 Q. And the chain of command supported that?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. And you succeeded at becoming a warrant officer and that
- 9 Master Analyst School?
- 10 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q. When you were deployed, what was primary mission at 2/10
- 12 during the '08 -- or sorry, the '09-'10 deployment?
- 13 A. Primarily I was the shift record team lead.
- 14 Q. And you were left alone basically to be the master analyst?
- 15 A. I had some team members.
- 16 O. Well you -- But Master Sergeant Adkins kept the Soldier
- 17 issues more to himself?
- A. Yes.
- 19 O. He handled those mostly?
- 20 A. I took more of the analytic and work products, the quality
- 21 control and dissemination. He took more of the administrative.
- 22 Q. And Master Sergeant Adkins doesn't have to report things
- down through you because you were a staff sergeant at the time and he

- 1 was a master sergeant at the time? He doesn't necessarily have to go
- 2 back down through you, when he's reporting things?
- 3 A. I guess you could say, yes.
- 4 Q. But you would expect him to tell you something, if you need
- 5 to know it?
- 6 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. And the email that Mr. Coombs showed you, you said that you
- 8 considered that to be a personal issue?
- 9 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 10 Q. So that might require behavioral health, not necessarily
- 11 bringing you into the loop?
- 12 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 13 Q. And do you remember the date on that email?
- 14 A. I do not, ma'am.
- 15 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: I'm retrieving Exhibit -- Defense Exhibit
- 16 Quebec-Quebec-Quebec and handing it to the witness.
- 17 Q. Could you just read the date on the top of the email --
- 18 actually it would be down here to yourself.
- 19 A. Saturday ----
- 20 Q. Actually to yourself.
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. Can you tell us what date on the email is?
- 23 A. 24 April 2010.

- 1 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: I'm retrieve Defense Exhibit Quebec-Quebec-
- 2 Quebec for Identification.
- 3 Q. That was 24 April 2010?
- 4 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 5 Q. This was actually your fourth deployment, the '09-'10
- 6 deployment?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. And you also deployed in '06-'07 with 2/10?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. With the S-2 Shop?
- 11 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q. Master Sergeant Adkins was NCOIC at that time as well?
- 13 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 14 Q. Was the shop running any differently in '09-'10 than it was
- 15 in '06-'07?
- 16 A. Other than a different area of responsibility and we had
- 17 more people in '06-'07. It was relatively -- it was very similar.
- 18 Q. So you had less personnel in '09?
- 19 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 20 Q. Were the OPSEC and physical security practices at FOB
- 21 Hammer in the 2009-2010 deployment any different?
- 22 A. No, ma'am.
- 23 Q. You said you were familiar with DEROGs at the time?

- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q. And they were actually really rare, it was rare to do a
- 3 DEROG wasn't it?
- 4 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 5 Q. And you only remember doing maybe one or two?
- 6 A. There were very few.
- 7 O. What was the time constraint on that, the one or two?
- 8 A. One was while we were deployed in '06-'07 and one was
- 9 shortly after we got back, if I'm remembering right.
- 10 Q. Those are for pretty serious ----
- 11 A. Pretty egregious things.
- 12 O. Why do you reserve DEROGs for egregious misconduct?
- 13 A. DEROGs once -- it's primarily once the clearance is,
- 14 indeed, pulled, if the Commander does want to pull the clearance, and
- 15 maybe down the line has second thoughts and says, maybe this was
- 16 wrong, we want to get the clearance back, it is a very difficult
- 17 procedure to bring the clearance back to that Soldier.
- 18 O. So there are other avenues you could pursue?
- 19 A. Yes. Please exercise caution when dealing with clearance.
- 20 Q. So you might counsel the Soldier or try some corrective
- 21 training. There's lots of other avenues you could pursue before
- 22 that?
- 23 A. Yes, ma'am.

- 1 Q. And did you think in the '09-'10 deployment, did you think
- 2 the S-2 shop was run well?
- 3 A. It -- The job was done. What we needed done, got done.
- 4 Q. You completed your mission besides you had some logistical
- 5 and operational, I quess, challenges?
- 6 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. But you completed your mission?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. You had some personnel shortages?
- 10 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q. You said it was confusing. That was partially because
- 12 there was change in personnel quite often?
- 13 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 14 O. But there was always someone that the Soldiers could go to,
- 15 if they had any questions, the junior analysts?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 O. How is Captain Lim at the S-2?
- 18 A. Captain Lim is a great intelligence officer.
- 19 Q. Would you say he's one of the better intelligence officers
- 20 you ever worked with?
- 21 A. I would, ma'am.
- 22 O. And he got the job done?
- 23 A. Yes, ma'am.

- 1 Q. He actually did more with less?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 3 Q. Was it common to go -- for people to go to mental health
- 4 during the '09-'10 deployment?
- 5 A. I don't know the degree, but it had become a more common
- 6 Army wide.
- 7 Q. It's more acceptable now or at least then than it used to
- 8 be?
- 9 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 10 Q. What happened specifically to a 35 Fox, when they lose
- 11 their clearance from a DEROG and do not get it back?
- 12 A. I couldn't tell you. I would assume they are reassigned to
- 13 a job that doesn't require a clearance or could possibly be
- 14 discharged from the military.
- 15 O. Because you are required to have a clearance as a 35 Fox?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 O. So you can't do your job as a 35 Fox without a clearance?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: No further questions, thank you.
- 20 M.T: Redirect?
- 21 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor.

22

1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

- Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 3 Q. Is your understanding of a DEROG that that would --
- 4 automatically a person loses their clearance?
- 5 A. It's not, sir. It's dependent on the commander, there's a
- 6 section commander recommends course of action.
- 7 Q. And is one of those courses of action just a temporary
- 8 suspension?
- 9 A. Yes, that is one, sir.
- 10 Q. You indicated that you were familiar with other DEROGs
- 11 being filed for egregious conduct?
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Do you recall what those egregious conducts were?
- 14 A. Without going into too much detail on what the Soldier did?
- 15 Q. You don't have to say the Soldier's name, but what are we
- 16 talking about; DUI, are we talking about assault, what is the issue?
- 17 A. One was improper relations with a member of a foreign
- 18 military.
- O. Okav.
- 20 A. Maybe the other was extreme alcohol abuse.
- 21 O. All right. So the egregious thing we are talking about is
- 22 an improper relationship and perhaps a problem with alcohol?
- 23 A. Yes, sir.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Thank you.
- 2 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: I just have one follow-up question, ma'am,
- 3 to clarify.
- 4 MJ: Go ahead.
- 5 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 6 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT OVERGAARD]:
- 7 Q. It was an egregious relationship with a foreign national
- 8 that was the concern, right?
- 9 A. Yes. That individual was also a member of that military.
- 10 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: Thank you.
- 11 [The witness was temporarily excused, duly warned, and withdrew from
- 12 the courtroom.]
- MJ: Are you ready to proceed with the next witness or do you
- 14 want a brief recess?
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I would like to take a 15-minute recess,
- 16 Your Honor, because I need to set up a few things for the next
- 17 witness.
- 18 MJ: All right. Any objection?
- 19 TC: No, ma'am.
- 20 MJ: Court is in recess until 11:15.
- 21 [The court-martial recessed at 1101, 13 August 2013.]
- 22 [The court-martial was called to order at 1119, 13 August 2013.]

- 1 MJ: Court is called to order. Let the record all parties
- 2 present when the court last recessed are not present. Major Fein,
- 3 account for the parties, please.
- 4 TC[MAJ FEIN]: Yes, ma'am. Captain von Elten is absent.
- 5 Captain Morrow is present. Otherwise, all parties are present.
- 6 MJ: Thank you. Mr. Coombs.
- 7 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Yes, Your Honor. The defense calls Mr. Paul
- 8 Adkins.
- 9 PAUL ADKINS, civilian, was recalled as a witness for the defense,
- 10 reminded he was still under oath, and testified as follows:
- 11 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 12 Questions by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 13 Q. I'm handing you what has been marked as Defense Exhibit
- 14 Romeo-Romeo for Identification. Please, if you would, just
- 15 take a look at that. Flip both pages. When you're done looking at
- 16 that, just look up at me.
- 17 A. Okay, sir.
- 18 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- 19 O. Really what I'm asking is whether or not you recognize it.
- 20 You don't need to read the whole thing, if you recognize it?
- 21 A. I recognize the signature. I don't 100 percent recognize -
- 22 remember writing up the counseling statement, but it must have been
- 23 me because that's my signature, sir.

- 1 Q. Looking at this now, then do you recognize who this
- 2 counseling is for?
- 3 A. Yes. It's for me.
- 4 Q. Who is counseling you?
- 5 A. Captain Lim.
- 6 O. And do you recall why he was counseling you?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And why was he counseling you?
- 9 A. Because I didn't bring to anyone's attention an email that
- 10 PFC Manning sent me earlier on.
- 11 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm Retrieving Defense Exhibit RRR for
- 12 Identification and handing the witness Defense QQQ for
- 13 Identification.
- 14 Q. Again, you don't need to read the Defense Exhibit, but I
- 15 want you to glance at it and when you're doing looking at it, just
- 16 look up at me.
- 17 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- 18 A. Yes, sir.
- 19 O. Do you recognize Defense Exhibit QQQ for Identification?
- 20 A. Yes, sir.
- 21 O. And how do you recognize it?
- 22 A. It's an email sent to me, sir. And that I sent to Captain
- 23 Lim.

- 1 Q. When did you receive this -- Well actually, who did you
- 2 receive this email from?
- A. PFC Manning.
- 4 Q. And when did you receive the email?
- 5 A. 24 April, sir.
- 6 Q. And when did you inform Captain Lim about PFC Manning's
- 7 email?
- 8 A. 3 June, sir.
- 9 Q. Let's talk about the email you received. What was the
- 10 subject line of the email?
- 11 A. "My problem", sir.
- 12 Q. That was the subject line, "My problem"?
- 13 A. Yes, sir.
- 14 O. And did you read the email when you received it?
- 15 A. I was more concentrating on the photo.
- 16 Q. We'll talk about the photo in a moment. Did you read the
- 17 content of the email?
- 18 A. I'm pretty sure I did, sir.
- 19 Q. And you indicated there was a photo. There was a photo
- 20 attached to the email?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. And did you look at that photo?
- 23 A. Yes.

- 1 O. And do you see that photo within Defense Exhibit QQQ for
- 2 Identification?
- A. Yes, sir.
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving Defense Exhibit QQQ for
- 5 Identification and offer it into evidence as Defense Exhibit QQQ.
- 6 MJ: Any objection?
- 7 ATC [CPT OVERGAARD]: No, ma'am.
- 8 MJ: Defense Exhibit QQQ is admitted.
- 9 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permission to publish, ma'am?
- 10 MJ: Proceed.
- 11 [There was a brief pause while the civilian defense counsel published
- 12 Defense Exhibit 000 to the witness and the Court.]
- 13 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 14 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: What I'm going to do, I'm also going to hand
- 15 you a copy of the same exhibit just so you have a copy in front of
- 16 you so you can see it clearly. Let's discuss this email.
- 17 O. You indicate that PFC Manning sent this email to you on 24
- 18 April. Is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 O. And when he indicated "My problem", did you understand from
- 21 the subject line what he was referring to?
- 22 A. Not necessarily, no.

- 1 O. And then you indicated that apparently you looked at the
- 2 photo, but you believed you read the email as well?
- 3 A. Yeah, I believe so, sir.
- 4 O. And let's talk about the photograph real fast.
- 5 A. Okay, sir.
- 6 Q. Can you turn to the page. Is this the photograph that you
- 7 received?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. And did you recognize who was in the photograph?
- 10 A. Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. And who did you recognize that to be?
- 12 A. PFC Manning, sir.
- Q. And what did you recognize him to be wearing at the time?
- 14 A. A wig and like makeup or something like that, sir.
- 15 Q. Would you agree he's dressed as a female?
- 16 A. Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. All right. So let's go back now to the email. Now having
- 18 seen the photograph, what were your initial thoughts when you just
- 19 looked at the photograph?
- 20 A. I don't honestly remember my thoughts. What I remember was
- 21 the need to talk to him and find out why he had sent the email or
- 22 things along those lines, sir.

- 1 Q. All right. How did you then after seeing the photograph
- 2 interpret the "My problem" email?
- 3 A. I wrote on it to speak with him directly, when I received
- 4 the email. So I wasn't 100 percent sure how I would interpret it.
- 5 Reading it now I have an interpretation, but then I think I really
- 6 just wanted to talk to PFC Manning.
- 7 Q. So based on your memory now you believed that at the time
- 8 you really weren't interpreting the email you, just realized you
- 9 needed to speak to PFC Manning based upon the email?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Now, did you -- You eventually shared this email with your
- 12 immediate supervisor Captain Lim. Is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. When did you send the email to Captain Lim?
- 15 A. 3 June, sir.
- 16 Q. Why did you wait until 3 June to inform your commander
- 17 about this email, or excuse me, your S-2 about this email?
- 18 A. I was concerned initially when I received the email that
- 19 had I forwarded it to the S-2 or whoever, that it would be
- 20 disseminated among the brigade staff or HHC or something like that.
- 21 And I really didn't think at the time that having a picture floating
- 22 around of one of my Soldiers in drag was in the best interests of the
- 23 mission, the Intel mission, sir.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving a copy of exhibit. I'm
- 2 handing the witness Defense Exhibit Romeo-Romeo-Romeo for
- 3 Identification again.
- 4 O. Let's go back to Defense Exhibit Romeo-Romeo-Romeo for
- 5 Identification. This was the written counseling by Captain Lim to
- 6 you?
- 7 A. Yes, sir.
- 8 Q. Captain Lim was your immediate supervisor?
- 9 A. Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. And this was a negative counseling?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. And this counseling was based upon your delay of reporting
- 13 the "My problem" email to Captain Lim?
- 14 A. Yes, sir.
- 15 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, the defense moves into evidence
- 16 Defense Exhibit Romeo-Romeo-Romeo for Identification as Defense
- 17 Exhibit Romeo-Romeo-Romeo.
- 18 MJ: Any objection?
- 19 ATC [CPT OVERGAARD]: No, Ma'am.
- 20 MJ: Defense Exhibit Romeo-Romeo-Romeo is admitted.
- 21 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permission to publish?
- 22 M.T: Proceed.

- 1 [There was a brief pause while the civilian defense counsel published
- 2 the exhibit to the witness and the Court.]
- 3 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Now, this is a little harder to read. I'm
- 4 going to give you again a copy. I would like to go through the
- 5 counseling statement with you. I'm handing you a copy of the
- 6 exhibit.
- 7 O. Did Captain Lim inform you of what you should have done
- 8 after receiving this email in his counseling statement to you?
- 9 A. I'm sure he did. I mean, yes, I'm sure he did; yes, sir.
- 10 Q. And did he tell you that you should have immediately
- 11 reported this to him?
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. And why didn't you report it to him immediately?
- 14 A. As I said, I thought at the time that it was something that
- 15 was being handled by his therapist and had I forwarded it, I was
- 16 concerned that the photo would be disseminated among the staff.
- 17 Q. Well, did Captain Lim tell you that PFC Manning should have
- 18 been immediately removed from the T-SCIF based upon this email?
- 19 A. Can you give me a minute to read the entire thing?
- 20 O. Sure.
- 21 A. Okav. Thanks.
- 22 [There was a pause while the witness read through the exhibit.]
- 23 A. Yes, he did say that.

- 1 Q. I just want to make sure, as I ask these questions, if you
- 2 don't recall it, you can say I don't recall. Do you recall him
- 3 telling you that PFC Manning should have been immediately removed
- 4 from the T-SCIE?
- 5 A. I mean I don't recall him saying that. As I said, it
- 6 states this in the counseling 4856, but I don't recall him stating
- 7 that.
- 8 Q. Do you recall Captain Lim informing you that PFC Manning
- 9 should have had his clearance DEROGed immediately?
- 10 A. I don't recall him stating that.
- 11 Q. Is that in the counseling statement?
- 12 A. Could you repeat the question, please, sir.
- 13 O. In the counseling statement do you see where Captain Lim
- 14 says, upon receipt of this email, he should have immediately been
- 15 informed from the -- excuse me, he should have been immediately
- 16 removed from the SCIF and his clearance DEROGed.
- 17 A. Yes, I see that.
- 18 Q. Followed up by a recommendation for command referral ----
- 19 A. Yes, I see that.
- 20 Q. ---- for behavioral health?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. But you don't recall that ----
- 23 A. I mean I don't recall it ----

- 1 Q. ---- today?
- 2 A. --- but what I'll say is, during the course of the
- 3 counseling session, seeing that I did sign it, that I can safely
- 4 assume that this is what Captain Lim and I discussed, sir.
- 5 Q. And why didn't you immediately inform the command of a
- 6 potential DEROG for PFC Manning based upon this email?
- 7 A. I felt throughout the deployment that Manning's presence as
- 8 an analyst was important to the mission. And my intent was to make
- 9 sure, if I could possibly do it, that he could maintain his
- 10 functionality as an intelligence analyst. I don't remember exactly
- 11 why I didn't recommend the clearance be removed specifically. But
- 12 the intent in regards to him staying in the SCIF was, I felt that his
- 13 presence and his -- what he provided to us as an intelligence section
- 14 was important enough to retain him.
- 15 O. Do you feel that that was your decision to make? Did you
- 16 feel you, as the master sergeant, could make that decision or did you
- 17 feel that that was a command decision?
- 18 A. It was a command decision.
- 19 Q. So why didn't you inform the command?
- 20 A. We had a command referred fit for duty evaluation prior to
- 21 this email, I believe. And he was found to be fit for duty.

- 1 Q. Not my question, Mr. Adkins. My question was, you felt it
- 2 was a command decision. Why didn't you inform the command of this
- 3 email?
- 4 A. I don't know why, sir.
- 5 Q. Now in this counseling statement Captain Lim references a
- 6 memorandum of record that you wrote on 26 April 2010, correct?
- 7 A. Hold on. Yes.
- 8 MJ: What was that question?
- 9 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: In the counseling statement Captain Lim
- 10 references a memorandum that Master Sergeant Adkins wrote on 26 April
- 11 2010?
- 12 WIT: That's correct, sir.
- 13 O. And you actually wrote three memorandums for record
- 14 concerning PFC Manning. Is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. And obviously Captain Lim must have been aware of the 26
- 17 April 2010. At the time of the counseling did you share all three
- 18 counseling statements with Captain Lim, or excuse me, MFRs with
- 19 Captain Lim at the time of this counseling statement?
- 20 A. I don't remember if I shared them at that time. What I
- 21 think I normally would have done, when Captain Lim assumed the S-2
- 22 position, I may have showed him the MFRs at that time, but I don't

- 1 recall that I did. And I can't say for certain during this
- 2 counseling session that I provided those MFRs to him.
- 3 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving a copy of Defense Exhibit --
- 4 returning Defense Exhibit Romeo-Romeo-Romeo and Defense Exhibit QQQ
- 5 to the court reporter. I'm handing the witness Defense Exhibit XX.
- 6 Q. XX is a Memorandum For Record that you wrote on 21 December
- 7 2009?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. Do you see your signature on that Memorandum for Record?
- 10 A. Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. Why did you write this Memorandum for Record?
- 12 A. I wrote it to ensure that PFC Manning's therapist was
- 13 receiving additional information in regards to his behavior.
- 14 Q. How did you know the information that's contained within
- 15 the Memorandum for Record?
- 16 A. I either witnessed it or it was told to me.
- 17 Q. Did you share this Memorandum for Record with your chain of
- 18 command at the time you wrote it?
- 19 A. I don't recall if I did. I imagine -- I can't say for
- 20 certain. I believe that I did share it with the S-2, but I can't be
- 21 100 percent certain, sir.
- 22 Q. If you shared it with S-2, that would have been Major
- 23 Clausen?

- 1 A. On 21 December, I believe so, yes.
- 2 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving Defense Exhibit XX from the
- 3 witness. Permission to publish, ma'am.
- 4 MJ: Proceed.
- 5 [There was a brief pause while the civilian defense counsel published
- 6 the exhibit to the witness and the Court.]
- 7 Q. We are going to go through a few of the paragraphs in this
- 8 memorandum. Let's look at Paragraph 1. In Paragraph 1 you indicate
- 9 you discussed what you believed to be instances of mental instability
- 10 by then Specialist Manning. Why did you believe PFC Manning, his
- 11 instability seemed to heighten since November 2009? You see where
- 12 you say that?
- 13 A. Are you asking ----
- 14 Q. I'm just asking you, why did you believe that his
- 15 instability, to the extent that you believe he had some, seemed to
- 16 heighten since November 2009?
- 17 A. I don't know if I stated specifically in the memorandum,
- 18 but looking back I think I would have presumed it was due to the
- 19 increased stress of deployment or something like that, sir.
- 20 Q. If you had that belief that you believed he was showing
- 21 instances of mental instability, and that was heightening since
- 22 November 2009, why didn't you remove PFC Manning from the SCIF?

- 1 A. Because, one, I was getting him therapy at the combat
- 2 stress; two, we needed analysts to assess the threat and I wanted to
- 3 make sure that we had enough Soldiers to conduct our mission.
- 4 Q. Look at Paragraph 2. Paragraph 2 you discuss an incident
- 5 involving then Specialist Manning that occurred in the either June or
- 6 July 2009 timeframe. Do you recall that incident that you reference
- 7 in Paragraph 2?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. What do you recall about that incident?
- 10 A. What was written here, that he was being counseled for,
- 11 verbally counseled for missing formation and he started screaming and
- 12 then he calmed down. And we talked about him going to seek behavior
- 13 health.
- 14 Q. And when you say "started screaming", what do you recall
- 15 happening?
- 16 A. He sort of tensed up and clenched his fist. And just -- I
- 17 mean it was like two or three yells or something like that. And then
- 18 he stopped.
- 19 O. Where was this at?
- 20 A. This was behind the company -- near our PT formation.
- 21 Q. And I take it you were present?
- 22 A. Yes, sir.
- O. Who else was present?

- 1 A. I believe it was Specialist Showman.
- Q. Did anyone else see the incident?
- A. I can't recall.
- 4 Q. Based upon this incident, did you inform the S-2 at the
- 5 time, Major Clausen, about it?
- 6 A. I may have. I don't -- I don't recall speaking with him
- 7 directly about it. But I feel confident that I discussed all
- 8 personnel issues with the S-2 pretty much on a daily basis. So this
- 9 certainly would have been something I think I would have discussed
- 10 with him.
- 11 Q. And if you discussed it with him, did you also report the
- 12 incident to your company commander Major Juric [phonetic] or your
- 13 first sergeant?
- 14 A. I don't recall if I discussed it with them or not.
- 15 Q. In Paragraph 3 you state that you decided to deploy PFC
- 16 Manning given manpower issues?
- 17 A. Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. What manpower issues did you have?
- 19 A. We were a little short I believe on the MTOE. And
- 20 additionally, we had another Soldier who had recently had a heart
- 21 attack, who was staying behind as Rear-D. And so I did not assess
- 22 that we could get away with having two Soldiers on Rear-D.

- 1 Especially with, you know, like a non-physical health issue. So it
- 2 was -- that was the reason.
- 3 O. Did you feel pressure to deploy PFC Manning?
- 4 A. I would say there was not necessarily direct but more of an
- 5 indirect pressure knowing how -- how the unit wanted to make sure
- 6 that everyone who could possibly deploy would deploy. So I would say
- 7 there was indirect pressure of making sure that anyone who could
- 8 physically deploy was deploying. I would say that that was pressure.
- 9 Also, I understood, at least I recall knowing that I had seen the
- 10 manning roster of the unit that we were replacing and knowing that we
- 11 had other manpower allocations that would be taken from our shop. I
- 12 felt the need to deploy him. And I mean I have some -- in a perfect
- 13 world I think if I could have left him back to make sure that he was
- 14 getting behavioral healthcare on a consistent basis, I would have.
- 15 But I also felt that his issue would not have warranted him remaining
- 16 CONUS, when we already had another Soldier who was remaining there
- 17 because of health issues, sir.
- 18 O. Did you discuss this issue and your concerns with the
- 19 company commander?
- 20 A. I don't know if I did. I know I discussed it with the S-2,
- 21 but I don't know -- I don't recall if I discussed it with the first
- 22 sergeant or the commander.

- 1 Q. And you would agree with me that decision who deploys is a
- 2 command decision?
- A. Yeah, it is.
- 4 Q. And you indicated that you might have spoken with the S-2
- 5 Major Clausen about your concerns?
- 6 A. No. I might have spoken with the company commander or the
- 7 first sergeant. But, again, I feel confident that I kept Major
- 8 Clausen and Captain Lim and whomever my S-2 was, I kept them, I think
- 9 pretty much fully informed on personnel issues of any of our
- 10 Soldiers. So I feel confident that we discussed it.
- 11 Q. All right. Just so I understand your testimony then.
- 12 You're confident that you would have discussed your concerns with the
- 13 S-2, Major Clausen?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And you might have discussed your concerns with first
- 16 sergeant or company commander?
- 17 A. I may have. I just don't recall that conversation, sir.
- 18 Q. All right. Let's look at Paragraph 5. Paragraph 5 you
- 19 indicate that you had an incident involving PFC Manning losing his
- 20 room key. Was this during the deployment?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. And you were counseling him on this issue apparently?

- 1 A. Yeah, I was counseling him because it was -- the counseling
- 2 form was a prerequisite for a Soldier who lost his key to be reissued
- 3 a room kev.
- 4 O. Why were you counseling him as opposed to maybe his
- 5 immediate supervisor?
- 6 A. I don't remember the specifics of the counseling session.
- 7 I don't remember if it -- if I -- I know obviously from the
- 8 memorandum that I was present. I don't know if his first line
- 9 supervisor was there. So I don't recall all the specifics of the
- 10 session. I don't recall writing up the 4856. I think that's
- 11 something that normally I would have left to the first line
- 12 supervisor. But apparently I was there at the session.
- 13 Q. So sitting here today, do you recall when you wrote in here
- 14 that during the counseling session that Specialist Manning shoved a
- 15 chair and began to yell and that you took him outside to calm him
- 16 down?
- 17 A. I mean I remember the incident vaguely. In this writing --
- 18 reading this I don't necessarily recollect the incident any better.
- 19 But I do vaquely remember that, sir, yes.
- 20 O. All right. Let's look at Paragraph 6. When did you find
- 21 out about the 20 December 2009, counseling session between Specialist
- 22 Padgett and PFC Manning?

- 1 A. Probably the next morning. I'm not sure if it was the 20th
- 2 or 21st, when I came in, whenever that was.
- 3 Q. What were you told happened?
- 4 A. Pretty much what's written here, that there was a
- 5 counseling session regarding punctuality, and he began yelling and
- 6 flipping a chair and someone had to restrain him.
- 7 Q. Do you know why a Soldier had to restrain him?
- 8 A. Because he was like flipping furniture.
- 9 Q. Were you ever informed that the Soldier that restrained him
- 10 believed that PFC Manning might have been going for a weapon?
- 11 A. What I had been told was, and this is just what I recall,
- 12 was that during the incident PFC Manning was like throwing -- I know
- 13 he threw the table, and what I recall is, PFC Manning turned towards
- 14 the weapons rack. Because it, from what I recall the Soldiers -- it
- 15 looked like he wanted to break something. Looked like he wanted to
- 16 throw something. And he turned to the weapons rack, at least this
- 17 was how it was described to me, and then turned away as if there's
- 18 nothing there that I want to break. So I was under the impression
- 19 that he was not going for a weapon, but just something physical to
- 20 break. That was my impression after I discussed it with, I believe
- 21 it was Mr. Ehresman and Sergeant Padgett.
- 22 Q. You state in Paragraph 6 that you removed the bolt from PFC
- 23 Manning's weapon. Why did you do that?

- 1 A. I wasn't 100 percent sure of his stability and I wanted to
- 2 send him a message that behavior like that, you know, was not -- not
- 3 acceptable.
- 4 Q. Did you alert the command to this incident?
- 5 A. I don't know if I did or not. I know at some point I
- 6 talked with the first sergeant and the commander, but I don't recall
- 7 when I did during the deployment, sir.
- 8 Q. After this incident why didn't you remove PFC Manning from
- 9 the SCIF?
- 10 A. I still felt that with therapy and I still felt that he was
- 11 providing valuable information and intelligence in regards to the
- 12 threat he was assigned to analyze, sir.
- 0. Apparently based upon your answer you didn't feel the need
- 14 to do DEROG either?
- 15 A. I did not do a DEROG, no.
- 16 Q. Did you feel the need to notify the command to have them
- 17 initiate a DEROG?
- 18 A. Again, I don't remember when I spoke with the command on
- 19 this -- in regards to PFC Manning. So I can't say exactly. But no
- 20 DEROG was initiated, correct.
- 21 O. Let's look at Paragraph 7. Paragraph 7 you reference
- 22 several in-depth conversations with PFC Manning. How many did you
- 23 have?

- A. I don't remember exactly. And I don't know when I had
- 2 them, but probably at least, I mean the word several implies at least
- 3 three, sir.
- 4 Q. Do you recall what you talked about?
- 5 A. Not exactly. I think one of the discussions had to do with
- 6 a package that he got sent from home. I think it was earlier
- 7 referenced in the memorandum. And how he had some family problems
- 8 and wouldn't open the present that he received from home. So the in-
- 9 depth conversations I don't know exactly when they occurred, if they
- 10 occurred before and during the deployment or not. So -- And I can't
- 11 put an exact number on it.
- 12 Q. Was anyone else present during these conversations that you
- 13 had with PFC Manning?
- 14 A. Probably not. I'm not sure. I don't think so.
- 15 O. You state in Paragraph 7, these are your words, that you
- 16 assess he, he being PFC Manning, is salvageable, if he receives and
- 17 actively participates in extensive psychological therapy immediately?
- 18 A. IIh-huh.
- 19 O. At least once to twice a week on an indefinite basis.
- 20 A. Yes. sir.
- Q. Based upon your assessment why did you feel that he needed
- 22 extensive psychiatric therapy at that time?

- 1 A. Just based on my discussions with him, based on -- I mean
- 2 based on my discussions I thought that he was willing to conduct the
- 3 missions that were required of him. He was willing to receive
- 4 therapy, again based on my discussions, and I don't recall exactly
- 5 all the specifics or really any of the specifics, or very few of
- 6 them. But based on my hope or faith in therapy, based on my
- 7 impression that he wanted to conduct the mission and based on the
- 8 fact that I felt that losing him would be a detriment to our
- 9 intelligence mission. I think I even lost track of your question,
- 10 sir.
- 11 Q. Well, I'll ask another. You indicate that coupled with
- 12 that apparently therapy that you believed he needed -- he also needed
- 13 responsive psychiatric evaluations, medication and follow-up
- 14 adjustments on dosages. And then you go on to diagnose him as
- 15 suffering from acute post-traumatic stress disorder. Do you have any
- 16 medical training or mental health training?
- 17 A. No, sir, I don't.
- 18 Q. Why would you make, I guess, apparently these diagnoses?
- 19 A. I have known people in the past who have suffered what was
- 20 diagnosed as a PTSD from development, I mean, from the domestic
- 21 instances. The reason I wrote this, I mean obviously I'm not a
- 22 psychiatrist or psychologist, but what I wanted to give the doctor
- 23 and, again, based on my limited knowledge, what I wanted to give the

- 1 doctor was just a, I guess a, a good handle for what I was observing.
- 2 And based on that and the doctor's therapy sessions, therapeutic
- 3 sessions he would have a better idea of what was going on. So the
- 4 intent of this and all memorandums for record was to augment the
- 5 doctors or the therapists' understanding of PFC Manning. I mean
- 6 obviously I had no training. It was just a layman's observation
- 7 based on his behavior, sir.
- 8 Q. You also indicate in that paragraph that you believed he
- 9 was extremely guarded concerning certain aspects of his private life.
- 10 Why did you believe that?
- 11 A. Is that in Paragraph 7, sir?
- 12 Q. Paragraph 8.
- 13 A. Okay. Hold on. Can you please repeat the question, sir?
- 14 O. I just wanted to know why you believed he, he being PFC
- 15 Manning, was extremely quarded concerning certain aspects of his
- 16 private life and apparently compartmentalized what information he
- 17 would and would not share with others. What made you come to that
- 18 conclusion?
- 19 A. Probably because he said it. I don't recall exactly
- 20 whether -- I know he told me that he didn't trust therapists, but
- 21 regarding his private life I would presume that he must have said it,
- 22 but I don't recall what he said or when he said it or if there had
- 23 been some other reason I had come to that conclusion, sir.

- 1 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm handing the witness what has been marked
- 2 Defense Exhibit Mike-Mike-Mike for Identification. Just take a look
- 3 at that. When you're done, just look up at me.
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- 6 Q. You wrote this on 26 April 2010?
- 7 A. Yes, sir.
- 8 Q. Do you see your signature on the MFR?
- 9 A. Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. Why did you write this MFR?
- 11 A. It was an additional memorandum for his therapist, sir.
- 12 Q. Has this memorandum changed in any way since you wrote it?
- 13 A. Could you please rephrase, sir.
- 14 O. Does it look in the same condition as it did at the time
- 15 that you put your signature on it?
- 16 A. I quess, sir. I haven't seen it in quite a while.
- 17 O. Any reason to doubt that's the memorandum that you signed?
- 18 A. I don't think so, sir.
- 19 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving Defense Exhibit Mike-Mike-
- 20 Mike for Identification and offering it into evidence.
- 21 MJ: Any objection?
- 22 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: No objection.
- 23 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permission to publish, ma'am.

- 1 MJ: Proceed.
- 2 [There was a brief pause while the civilian defense counsel published
- 3 the exhibit to the witness and the Court.]
- 4 Questions continued by the civilian defense counsel [MR. Coombs]:
- 5 Q. In Paragraph 1 you note what you termed continued instances
- 6 of mental instability in PFC Manning. Why did you believe there were
- 7 continued instances of mental instability?
- 8 A. Why did I believe there were continued incidents? Is that
- 9 your question, sir?
- 10 Q. It is my question.
- 11 A. I guess because they are still going on from December or
- 12 August or whatever, sir.
- 13 Q. Well, you also state in that paragraph that events have
- 14 reemerged and intensified over a period of 2 weeks. What time period
- 15 are you referring to?
- 16 A. I don't recall, sir. I mean I'm not sure what I was
- 17 referring to at the time.
- 18 Q. You also in that paragraph, according to you, you believe
- 19 there were frequent catatonic periods and claims of disassociation.
- 20 What made you believe that?
- 21 A. The catatonic incidents, if I recall correctly, occurred
- 22 like during the shift change that he was briefing and he would seem
- 23 to freeze during the brief and not be able to continue with his, with

- 1 speaking. And as far as claims of disassociation, if I recall
- 2 correctly, he spoke to me and stated sometimes he would like lose
- 3 track of time or something like that. So the catatonic periods I
- 4 witnessed during shift changes, the dissociative periods he claimed
- 5 he endured to me.
- 6 Q. Did you speak with anyone in the chain of command about
- 7 your observations and concerns with regards to catatonic periods and
- 8 claims of disassociation?
- 9 A. I'm certain that I did. I don't know when I spoke with the
- 10 company commander in regards to his fit for duty evaluation. I
- 11 believe I shared these memorandums with the S-2. I don't know if I
- 12 shared them with my company commander or first sergeant or not.
- 13 Q. If you truly believed that, if that were your opinion, why
- 14 would you allow PFC Manning to remain in the SCIF, if you really
- 15 believed that he was having frequent catatonic periods and claims of
- 16 disassociation?
- 17 A. I was concerned that if we removed PFC Manning -- first of
- 18 all, we still had people going out the wire, and we still had people
- 19 doing missions, and if I recall correctly, the biggest threat to our
- 20 Soldiers and to our operational environment emerged from the Shia
- 21 insurgent groups, which PFC Manning helped analyze and helped assess.
- 22 Had -- again, I felt that his therapy would eventually bear fruit, I
- 23 certainly hoped that to be the case. And knowing that, if I removed

- 1 him, I would essentially, in large part, eliminate the fusion portion
- 2 of fusion analysis for the Shia insurgency. I felt that he was still
- 3 producing products that were allowing us to neutralize the Shia
- 4 threat.
- 5 Q. Paragraph 5 you state, "You're unsure at this time if he
- 6 presents a threat to himself, though he does not seem to be in danger
- 7 currently in my estimation. His instability is a constant source of
- 8 concern, however, due to his inherently fluid nature."
- 9 A. Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. Believing that why wouldn't you at that point remove him
- 11 from the SCIF?
- 12 A. Again, his products were satisfactory. There was still a
- 13 threat. And removing him would have taken my second Shia analyst,
- 14 who was on days with Mr. Balonek, over to nights. And essentially
- 15 would have, in my estimation, reduced our abilities to analyze and
- 16 assess the biggest threat by a third. So that was probably my
- 17 reasoning, sir.
- 18 Q. What do you mean when you say his instability is a constant
- 19 source of concern; however, due to its inherently fluid nature. What
- 20 does that mean?
- 21 A. I think it had to do with his erratic behavior maybe. I
- 22 can't 100 percent say now what I meant, but it likely had to do with
- 23 his behavior being erratic, sir.

- 1 Q. All right. Let's look at Paragraph 8. All right. Looking
- 2 at Paragraph 8. Just read that to yourself. When you're done, let
- 3 me know.
- 4 [There was a brief pause while the witness read the paragraph.]
- 5 A. Okay, sir.
- 6 Q. What did you mean -- What did you base your opinion, more
- 7 accurately, when you say, "PFC Manning's conduct was systematic of a
- 8 deeper medical condition unknown at this time"?
- 9 A. What I meant was, there's something wrong that's been
- 10 identified that it happened, at least this is what I think, there's
- 11 something wrong with him that I wanted the doctor to understand that
- 12 there may be something a little bit more in-depth going on than maybe
- 13 some garden variety stress or something like that, sir.
- 14 Q. Well, you reference in Paragraph 9 the "My problem" email
- 15 that you received, correct?
- 16 A. Yes, sir.
- 17 O. So why didn't you discuss the content of the email and
- 18 perhaps that was the deeper medical condition?
- 19 A. Can you go down, please sir, to the bottom of the signature
- 20 block. I don't recall -- can you go all the way. Okay. Thanks. I
- 21 don't recall at the time whether I provided that email to the doctor
- 22 or not.

- 1 O. But my question is, why wouldn't you say to the doctor that
- 2 the deeper medical condition appears to be based upon "My problem"
- 3 email something he's been struggling with his entire life. Why
- 4 wouldn't you reference that to the doctor?
- 5 A. I don't know, sir. I mean I really was -- The intent of
- 6 the memorandums was to give him, the doctor an idea what was going
- 7 on. I may have omitted that. I may have given the doctor the
- 8 emails. I don't recall. So, I can't answer that at this point, sir,
- 9 I don't know.
- 10 Q. And based upon the counseling statement we know that you
- 11 don't reference the "My problem" email with Captain Lim at this time,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. That's right, yes.
- 14 Q. Did you reference this memorandum with Captain Lim at that
- 15 time?
- 16 A. I don't know. I thought I would have, but I can't recall
- 17 exactly, sir.
- 18 Q. Did you reference this memorandum with your first sergeant
- 19 or company commander?
- 20 A. I, again, I may have, but I don't recall exactly, sir.
- 21 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm handing the witness what's been marked
- 22 as Defense Exhibit NNN for Identification. I'm removing Defense

- 1 Exhibit NNN from the overhead. Take a moment to thumb through those
- 2 two pages. When you're done, look up at me.
- 3 [There was a brief pause while the witness reviewed the exhibit.]
- 4 A. Okav, sir.
- 5 Q. You wrote this MFR on 8 May 2010?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. Do you see your signature on this Memorandum for Record?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. And why did you write this Memorandum for Record?
- 10 A. Again it was just to inform his therapist of recent
- 11 instances of behavior.
- 12 Q. Has this memorandum changed in any way since you put your
- 13 signature on it?
- 14 A. Again, I haven't seen it in a while, but I assume it's the
- 15 same, sir.
- 16 Q. Any reason to doubt that?
- 17 A. Not that I know.
- 18 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Your Honor, the defense moves into evidence
- 19 Defense Exhibit NNN for Identification as Defense Exhibit NNN.
- 20 MJ: Any objection?
- 21 ATC [CPT OVERGAARD]: No, ma'am.
- MJ: Defense Exhibit NNN is admitted.
- 23 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: Permission to publish.

- 1 MJ: Proceed.
- 2 [There was a brief pause while the civilian defense counsel published
- 3 the exhibit to the witness and the Court.]
- 4 Questions continued by the defense counsel [MR. COOMBS]:
- 5 Q. Let's talk about Paragraph 2. In Paragraph 2 you write
- 6 about finding PFC Manning sitting on the floor in the storage room.
- 7 Is that correct?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. And where was the storage room?
- 10 A. It was in the T-SCIF.
- 11 Q. How far away from the workstation, say, was the storage
- 12 room from PFC Manning's workstation?
- 13 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 14 O. Yes. How far away from PFC Manning's workstation was the
- 15 storage room?
- 16 A. 20 feet, something like that.
- 17 Q. And how did you find out that PFC Manning was in the
- 18 storage room sitting on the floor?
- 19 A. Someone told me that he was.
- 20 O. And when they told you that, what did you do?
- 21 A. I went in and checked on him.
- Q. When you walked in, what did you see?
- 23 A. He was sitting on the floor in a fetal position.

- Q. What do you mean by "fetal position"?
- 2 A. If I recall correctly, he was seated on the floor with like
- 3 his knees tucked up. And I can't remember if his arms were around
- 4 his legs or not. Something like that.
- 5 Q. When you say his knees tucked up, do you mean his knees
- 6 tucked up to his chest?
- 7 A. Yes, sir.
- 8 Q. What was PFC Manning doing, when you walked in?
- 9 A. It says here that I had noticed he was clutching his head
- 10 as though he was in pain.
- 11 Q. Did you speak to him at the moment you walked in?
- 12 A. I'm sure I did. I don't recall what I said. It was
- 13 probably something along the lines of are you all right, or something
- 14 like that.
- 15 Q. And did PFC Manning immediately respond to you?
- 16 A. Eventually, yes. In Paragraph 4 it shows that he
- 17 responded.
- 18 Q. Did he immediately respond to you?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 O. And you write about seeing a Gerber knife at PFC Manning's
- 21 feet. Is that correct?
- 22 A. Yes, sir.
- 23 Q. And how large was that knife?

- 1 A. I mean, a Gerber knife, it's usually about, I don't know,
- 2 two-inch blade or something like that, three inches.
- 3 O. Was the knife opened; was the blade visible?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Was PFC Manning holding the knife or was it on the floor,
- 6 when you walked in?
- 7 A. When I walked in, I'm not sure, but when I observed it, it
- 8 was at his feet. So I assume he was not holding it based on what I
- 9 wrote.
- 10 Q. And you noted in the memorandum that he had carved the
- 11 words "I want" into the chair. Is that correct?
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- 13 O. Did you actually see those words?
- 14 A. I think I did, yes.
- 15 Q. And how did you know that he carved those words into the
- 16 chair?
- 17 A. I guess we discussed it and he said he didn't know why he
- 18 etched them, but I ----
- 19 O. Do you recall seeing several pieces of the chair, the vinyl
- 20 top on the floor?
- 21 A. They were somewhere, yes, but they were cut, yes.
- 22 Q. Did you ask PFC Manning why he carved the words "I want"
- 23 into the chair?

- 1 A. I don't know if I asked him that or not. I don't recall
- 2 the exact like details of the conversation, sir.
- 3 Q. You indicate in the MFR that you spoke with him for over an
- 4 hour, or about an hour. Is that right?
- 5 A. Could you move down, please, so I can see. I'm not sure
- 6 where you are referring, sir.
- 7 Q. Sure.
- 8 A. I don't know where it says I talked to him for an hour.
- 9 Q. I'll hand you a copy of the exhibit. It's on Page 2. I'll
- 10 turn it to Page 2 for you. See on Page 2 where you say, after an
- 11 hour you were called to work and had to leave Specialist Manning?
- 12 A. Yes, sir, I see it.
- 13 O. All right. So you talked to him for about an hour?
- 14 A. I was in there for about an hour. According to this, yes.
- 15 Whether I was talking to him the entire time, I don't know, but I was
- 16 present with him.
- 17 Q. When you did talk to him, what did you guys talk about?
- 18 A. I guess he told me about how he was feeling and how he felt
- 19 fragmented.
- 20 O. Did you ask him questions like why did you carve those
- 21 words into the chair?
- 22 A. I may have. I don't -- I don't recall asking him that
- 23 specific question, sir, but I mean I may have asked him, yes.

- 1 Q. Did you ask him why he was on the floor in the storage
- 2 room?
- 3 A. I'm sure I asked him what was wrong and over the course of
- 4 the conversation, you know, I drew out or I learned from him what
- 5 occurred, I drew out and found whatever is in Paragraphs 4, 5 and 6,
- 6 sir.
- 7 O. How did this conversation end?
- 8 A. He was calm. And I put him back at his workstation, sir.
- 9 Q. And why, based upon seeing what you saw, and spending an
- 10 hour with him, would you ever put him back in his workstation?
- 11 A. Because, again, I think recently he had been, and I can't
- 12 state 100 percent sure, but I believe he had missed some work
- 13 recently or for some reason and there, again, there were tasks to do
- 14 in regards to analyzing the threat. So I did.
- 15 Q. Why wouldn't you have taken him to mental health
- 16 immediately?
- 17 A. He had been going to mental health several times.
- 18 Q. But why not at this point, when you find him in the storage
- 19 room with a knife at his feet, why wouldn't you then take him to
- 20 mental health immediately?
- 21 A. I'm not sure, sir. I mean he had been going. I don't know
- 22 why I didn't take him that night, sir. We did later obviously but
- 23 not at that time.

- 1 Q. Right because later that's when he assaulted Specialist
- 2 Showman?
- 3 A. Yes, sir.
- 4 O. That same shift?
- 5 A. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. Why didn't you immediately go to the S-2 or the company
- 7 commander to inform them what you saw?
- 8 A. I can't say, sir. I mean, again, he was in the process of
- 9 therapy. There was stuff to do. I'm not, you know, exonerating
- 10 myself for my decision. I don't know exactly what was going through
- 11 my mind, but for whatever reason I felt that he had calmed down,
- 12 there had been behaviors before where he would have incidents and he
- 13 would calm down and be fine. So I wrongly assessed that he was
- 14 stable enough to conduct his shift.
- 15 O. Now you received a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand,
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Yes, sir.
- 18 O. And that GOMOR documented your failure to report to the
- 19 chain of command various acts of misconduct and inappropriate
- 20 behavior by PFC Manning?
- 21 A. I haven't read it in a very long time, but I believe that's
- 22 what it referred to, yes, sir.

- 1 O. And the GOMOR also concluded that this failure was directly
- 2 related to information that was critical to the commander's
- 3 determination whether to deploy PFC Manning?
- 4 A. Can you repeat that, please, sir.
- 5 Q. Yes. The GOMOR concluded that your failure was directly
- 6 related to information that was critical to the commander's
- 7 determination whether to deploy PFC Manning?
- 8 A. I guess that's what it said. Again, I haven't seen it in a
- 9 long time, sir.
- 10 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm removing from the overhead Defense
- 11 Exhibit NNN. I'm showing the witness what's marked as Defense
- 12 Exhibit TTT for Identification and retrieving a copy of the previous
- 13 exhibit from the witness.
- 14 O. Do you recognize that?
- 15 A. Yes, sir, I do.
- 16 O. And what is that?
- 17 A. That's my General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand.
- 18 O. In that General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand do you see
- 19 where the command concluded or excuse me, in the GOMOR they concluded
- 20 that your failure was directly related to information that was
- 21 critical to the commander's determination whether to maintain PFC
- 22 Manning's security clearance?
- 23 A. Yes, sir, I do.

- 1 Q. You submitted a rebuttal to this GOMOR?
- 2 A. Yes, sir, I did.
- 3 Q. After reviewing your rebuttal, the GOMOR was still filed
- 4 into your performance record?
- 5 A. Yes, sir, it was.
- 6 Q. After receiving the GOMOR you were sent to an
- 7 Administrative Reduction Board?
- 8 A. Yes, sir, I was.
- 9 Q. And that Administrative Reduction Board was convened to
- 10 determine whether you should be reduced in grade for inefficiency due
- 11 to your failure to respond appropriately to the various acts of
- 12 misconduct and inappropriate behavior by PFC Manning?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 O. And you were represented by counsel at that board?
- 15 A. Yes, sir.
- 16 O. Witnesses were called to testify?
- 17 A. Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. You presented a defense to your actions?
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. And the board concluded that you were inefficient?
- 21 A. That's correct, sir.
- Q. The board concluded that you should be reduced in rank due
- 23 to your failures?

- 1 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. And you were reduced in rank?
- A. I was.
- 4 CDC[MR. COOMBS]: I'm retrieving from the witness Defense
- ${\tt 5}$ Exhibit Tango-Tango for Identification. No further questions.
- 6 MJ: Cross-examination?
- 7 ATC[CPT OVERGAARD]: Yes, ma'am.
- 8 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 9 Questions by the assistant trial counsel [CPT OVERGAARD]:
- 10 Q. Mr. Adkins, now the counseling statements you just went
- 11 through with the defense, or the MFRs I should call them, those you
- 12 prepared to provide to mental health professionals. Is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 14 O. And in those there was a December one that documented a
- 15 missing formation that occurred in July/June of '09?
- 16 A. Somewhere around July or August, June, something like that,
- 17 prior to the deployment.
- 18 O. And that would be missing formation is minor misconduct for
- 19 a junior Soldier?
- 20 A. It was for PT formation, yes.
- 21 Q. And PFC Manning had an angry outburst to -- when he was
- 22 corrected for that behavior?

- 1 A. It wasn't 100 percent exactly when he was corrected. It
- 2 was -- He was corrected by Specialist Showman, brought out to report
- 3 to me. And when Showman and I were discussing the event with PFC
- 4 Manning, that's when he had his outburst. So he wasn't necessarily
- 5 at the initial discussion between Showman -- with Specialist Showman
- 6 and PFC Manning.
- 7 Q. Okay. And then, again, in that December MFR you documented
- 8 a room key counseling that you had to do. Is that correct?
- 9 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 10 Q. And again, that was minor misconduct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And, again, PFC Manning had an angry outburst in response
- 13 to your counseling?
- 14 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 15 O. And then in December of '09 you documented that he was
- 16 counseled for being late a couple of times?
- 17 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 18 O. And as a result from being late and being counseled for his
- 19 misconduct, he had another angry outburst?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 21 O. And that was all in December of 2009?
- 22 A. You mean the tardiness and the outbursts, the third
- 23 outburst that you referred to?

- 1 Q. The room key, the tardiness and the outburst.
- 2 A. According to the MFR, yes.
- 3 O. Okay. And then did PFC Manning go on leave in January of
- 4 2010?
- 5 A. I believe so, yes, ma'am.
- 6 O. Why did he go on leave in January?
- 7 A. Normally we would have the junior Soldiers go first. And
- 8 additionally, I discussed with Major Clausen and others within the
- 9 shop that I thought it would be good to have PFC Manning go on leave
- 10 early for a couple reasons; one, to reduce his stress; two, we
- 11 weren't sure at the time how long we were going to be deployed. So I
- 12 wanted to make sure that he specifically and a couple of other junior
- 13 Soldiers went on leave as soon as possible.
- Q. So you sent him back to recharge his batteries, so-to-
- 15 speak?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q. And then PFC Manning, there's no other documented
- 18 misconduct until the end of April 2010?
- 19 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 20 O. So after he got back he was recharged?
- 21 A. I would say, yes, his performance was satisfactory.
- Q. And then, again, you documented in the MFR that he was
- 23 having trouble briefing -- he had some erratic behavior?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. So you wrote that MFR and gave it to his doctor?
- 3 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 4 Q. And then, again, at the beginning of May you saw other
- 5 erratic behavior?
- 6 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. So again you wrote the MFR and you gave it to his doctor?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And then on 8 -- And then soon after that, when you talked
- 10 to him, was it in the closet or in the supply room?
- 11 A. Yeah, it was a storage room; yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q. Okay. And soon after that was when he punched Specialist
- 13 Showman in the face?
- 14 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 15 Q. And then he was removed from the SCIF right after that?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 O. Then he was DEROGED right after that as well?
- 18 A. I'm not 100 percent sure of all the process or order of
- 19 when the DEROG was initiated, but he was removed from the SCIF, the
- 20 locks were changed. We took him to the company to work in supply and
- 21 told the first sergeant that we did not want him working back in the
- 22 SCIF again.

- 1 Q. Now going back to before he deployed. You instructed PFC
- 2 Manning to see mental health before he deployed, didn't you?
- 3 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 4 Q. He ultimately did deploy?
- 5 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 6 Q. So he was cleared for duty?
- 7 A. The initial mental health examination was more of a
- 8 screening, which helps determine, I guess, what type of treatment the
- 9 Soldier might need. So the patient was screened, like an inpatient
- 10 behavior health Soldier, screened PFC Manning. But by the time we --
- 11 By the time he could get an appointment, I believe it was passed his
- 12 flight time. So what we decided to do was have him continue his
- 13 treatment in theater with a combat stress unit that was on the FOB
- 14 where we were located.
- 15 Q. So he received an initial screening?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 O. And would the information from the initial screening go to
- 18 you or would that go to the company commander?
- 19 A. It staved, as far as I know, it stayed in the Behavior
- 20 Health.
- 21 MJ: It stayed where?
- 22 WIT: Behavior Health, ma'am.

- Q. If there was a reason for PFC Manning not to deploy, would
- 2 you expect Behavior Health to share that with the company commander?
- 3 A. At that time, because there was only a screening, I don't
- 4 know what they would have recommended because it probably was
- 5 conducted by like a PFC or a specialist. So without him having seen
- 6 or been treated by a therapist, I'm not certain that Behavior Health
- 7 would have made that recommendation based on simple screening of the
- 8 soft Soldier.
- 9 Q. So your understanding is he just had the screening before?
- 10 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q. But he did receive a fit for duty after you deployed?
- 12 A. Yes, he did.
- 13 O. And he was determined fit for duty?
- 14 A. That's what the commander and the first sergeant told me,
- 15 yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. So the commander and first sergeant would get the
- 17 fit for duty report?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 O. And you never saw those reports?
- 20 A. I did not.
- 21 O. Was that a commanded directed evaluation when you got in
- 22 theater?

- 1 A. I'm sure it was. I mean, I don't recall the exact --
- 2 everything that led to the evaluation, but Major Drener, or whoever
- 3 the commander was. It may have been Captain Freeburg at the time, I
- 4 don't recall, I think it was Major Drener, would have had to have
- 5 ordered the fit for duty evaluation.
- 6 Q. And then PFC Manning, he continued to see Behavior Health
- 7 throughout the deployment?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And he continued to be fit for duty throughout the entire
- 10 deployment?
- 11 A. According to the doctors, yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q. And you said before you wrote these MFRs and you are not a
- 13 psychiatrist or psychologist, but you did it to give PFC Manning's
- 14 doctors from your perspective situational awareness of what PFC
- 15 Manning was doing on a daily basis?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am. Or when he had an incident, yes.
- 17 Q. So only when you felt there was incidents that needed to be
- 18 documented, you reported?
- 19 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 20 Q. PFC Manning's NCO support channel in Iraq was Sergeant
- 21 Padgett or Sergeant Mitchell during the day or night shift. Is that
- 22 correct? The first-line supervisor, I'm sorry.

- 1 A. Yes, ma'am. His first line supervisor was Specialist
- 2 Padgett. He fell operationally under Mr. Balonek, who was then a
- 3 staff sergeant. Then myself and the first sergeant and sergeant
- 4 major.
- 5 Q. Okay. And you did your best to keep the Soldier issues
- 6 away from Staff Sergeant Balonek?
- A. Yes.
- 8 O. Because he was the master analyst?
- 9 A. Yes. He was the person who had the best handle on the most
- 10 active and dangerous threat. And ensuring that he focused primarily
- 11 on the threat was one of my intents that he could address what the
- 12 enemy was doing primarily. So I used him as a senior analyst along
- 13 with Mr. Ehresman, yes, ma'am.
- 14 Q. So you wanted him to focus on actually engaging the enemy?
- 15 A. Yes. I wanted them all to. And I felt that Mr. Balonek,
- 16 being the Chief Shia Analyst, and the Shias being the chief threat to
- 17 us and to the Iraqis in our sector, I felt that Mr. Balonek's
- 18 extensive focus on the enemy situation would better serve the unit
- 19 than having him also work extensively on administrative and Soldiers
- 20 issues. So primarily it was hoped that I would work a lot with
- 21 Specialist Padgett in regards to some of the Soldier issues that Mr.
- 22 Balonek might normally have handled otherwise.

- 1 Q. And PFC Manning went to you with a lot of his personal
- 2 issues?
- A. He came to me several times, ves, ma'am.
- 4 Q. You were very approachable?
- 5 A. I guess so.
- 6 Q. And you tried to help PFC Manning deal with the stresses
- 7 that he had in a productive way?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And you thought he was salvageable?
- 10 A. I did.
- 11 Q. You thought there was no reason for him not to succeed?
- 12 A. I thought there was no reason, and this is before I knew
- 13 everything, but I thought there was no reason that this Soldier, with
- 14 the help he was receiving, could get through his term of enlistment.
- 15 And be honorably discharged and carry on with his life. Because it
- 16 was, I thought it was obvious to him and to myself that the Army, it
- 17 was a good thing, but the Army isn't for everyone. And so the hope
- 18 and my intent was, just get through the deployment, you'll come home
- 19 and start ACAPing and you'll leave the Army and you just move on.
- 20 Q. And you made assessment based on your experience with other
- 21 Soldiers?
- A. Yes, ma'am.

- 1 Q. You had been able to get other Soldiers that were
- 2 struggling with being in the Army through their deployments?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 4 Q. You mentioned that you chose to remove the bolt from PFC
- 5 Manning's weapon during the deployment?
- 6 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. Had you had to do with any other Soldiers?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And have you also had to take other measures such as, you
- 10 know, having a Soldier sleep in the SCIF to also help maintain order?
- 11 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q. Did you ever have to recommend a Soldier redeploy early due
- 13 to behavioral or mental health problems?
- 14 A. Not that I can recall, no.
- 15 Q. And that would have been a decision more for higher ups to
- 16 make?
- 17 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 18 O. So your thought was with appropriate quidance, with mental
- 19 health's assistance, that PFC Manning could fulfill his requirements
- 20 and he could be a successful Intel Analyst.
- 21 A. Yes, ma'am.

- 1 Q. And if a mental health professional in Iraq had told you
- 2 that PFC Manning had to redeploy, you would have relayed to the first
- 3 sergeant or to the commander?
- 4 A. It would have been relayed to the first sergeant or
- 5 commander likely by the mental health professional.
- 6 Q. By them directly?
- 7 A. Right and, you know, he would have just been removed.
- 8 Q. You said you were focused on the mission, obviously?
- 9 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 10 Q. And you were focused on the fact that you needed Shia
- 11 analysts to actually analyze the threat that was occurring in theater
- 12 from the group that was presenting the most threat to our troops at
- 13 that time?
- 14 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 15 O. And without an analyst in PFC Manning's position, you
- 16 thought that it would eliminate the effective fusion of ideas on the
- 17 threat?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. So you thought, if you kept the stress level low, that that
- 20 would also help?
- 21 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 22 Q. So you put PFC Manning on night shift?
- 23 A. Yes, ma'am.

- 1 Q. And again, you recommended mental health or Behavior
- 2 Health, and you also recommended that he go to see the chaplain. Is
- 3 that correct?
- 4 A. Yes. ma'am.
- 5 Q. And he did see the chaplain?
- 6 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q. And you also recommended that he keep a journal?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. That he find constructive ways to have an outlet for the
- 10 stress that he was experiencing?
- 11 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q. And a lot of Soldiers actually went to mental health during
- 13 the '09/'10 deployment?
- 14 A. I'm certain. Yes, ma'am.
- 15 Q. It was more common than your previous deployments?
- 16 A. It was certainly more common and I think part of the reason
- 17 was, it was A, it was available within walking distance of where we
- 18 worked; and B, I think it was more acceptable to go to someone and,
- 19 you know, discuss problems or stressors with a professional.
- 20 Q. You encouraged your Soldiers to do that, to deal with
- 21 stressful situations?
- 22 A. If they needed to, yes.

- 1 Q. Your leadership style, you encouraged junior Soldiers to
- 2 express themselves?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 4 Q. And that was because to quash or inhibit the free flow of
- 5 ideas would be contrary to the fusion cells functionality?
- 6 A. Yes. I mean basically, although rank obviously is
- 7 important and within the Army, there's no -- no one has a monopoly on
- 8 good ideas or good assessments, be that a senior noncommissioned
- 9 officer, a captain, PFC, a specialist or buck sergeant. So one of
- 10 the things I wanted to ensure was that Soldiers felt that they could
- 11 respectfully contradict or counter arguments or analysis that was
- 12 presented by certain personnel in order to make sure that the ideas
- 13 that people had could be effectively meld into a good solid
- 14 intelligence product.
- 15 Q. And that was the crutch of being an Intel Analyst?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 O. In late April of 2010, when you received the email that the
- 18 defense was just showing you what the picture of PFC Manning,
- 19 regardless of his cross dressing on that email, did you still trust
- 20 him to do his job?
- 21 A. I did.
- 22 Q. And why is that?

- 1 A. Because he was still producing good products. He's still
- 2 meeting the standards that Mr. Balonek or whoever tasked him, he's
- 3 meeting the standards to effectively assess and analyze the threat.
- 4 Q. You didn't believe that just because he sent a photo of
- 5 cross dressing he was a security threat, did you?
- 6 A. I didn't necessarily come to that conclusion.
- 7 Q. You deployed on four separate occasions, correct?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And in all those deployments you were in a leadership
- 10 position in an S-2 shop?
- 11 A. Three of them, yes. In brigade S-2. In the 4th I was in
- 12 the Combined Joint Intelligence Operations Cell in Bagram,
- 13 Afghanistan.
- 14 O. What was your position there?
- 15 A. I was the CJ2 Ops NCOIC as sergeant first class.
- 16 Q. Based on your experience with these four separate
- 17 deployments, was the '09/'10 deployment, was the OPSEC or physical
- 18 security practices any different than your previous deployments?
- 19 A. No. ma'am.
- 20 Q. Did the deliberate compromise of classified information
- 21 occur those deployments?
- 22 A. During my previous deployments?
- 23 O. Yes.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING AND ARRANGING RECORD OF TRIAL

USE OF FORM - Use this form and MCM, 1984, Appendix 14, will be used by the trial counsel and the reporter as a guide to the preparation of the record of trial in general and special court-martial cases in which a verbatim record is prepared. Air Force uses this form and departmental instructions as a guide to the preparation of the record of trial in general and special court-martial cases in which a summarized record is authorized. Army and Navy use DD Form 491 for records of trial in general and special court-martial cases in which a summarized record is authorized. Inapplicable words of the printed text will be deleted.

COPIES - See MCM, 1984, RCM 1103(g). The convening authority may direct the preparation of additional copies.

ARRANGEMENT - When forwarded to the appropriate Judge Advocate General or for judge advocate review pursuant to Article 64(a), the record will be arranged and bound with allied papers in the sequence indicated below. Trial counsel is responsible for arranging the record as indicated, except that items 6, 7, and 15e will be inserted by the convening or reviewing authority, as appropriate, and items 10 and 14 will be inserted by either trial counsel or the convening or reviewing authority, whichever has custody of them.

- 1. Front cover and inside front cover (chronology sheet) of DD Form 490.
- 2. Judge advocate's review pursuant to Article 64(a), if any.
- 3. Request of accused for appellate defense counsel, or waiver/withdrawal of appellate rights, if applicable.
- 4. Briefs of counsel submitted after trial, if any (Article 38(c)).
- 5. DD Form 494. "Court-Martial Data Sheet."
- Court-martial orders promulgating the result of trial as to each accused, in 10 copies when the record is verbatim and in 4 copies when it is summarized.
- 7. When required, signed recommendation of staff judge advocate or legal officer, in duplicate, together with all clemency papers, including clemency recommendations by court members.

- 8. Matters submitted by the accused pursuant to Article 60 (MCM, 1984, RCM 1105).
- 9. DD Form 458, "Charge Sheet" (unless included at the point of arraignment in the record).
- 10. Congressional inquiries and replies, if any.
- 11. DF Form 457, "Investigating Officer's Report," pursuant to Article 32, if such investigation was conducted, followed by any other papers which accompanied the charges when referred for trial, unless included in the record of trial proper.
- Advice of staff judge advocate or legal officer, when prepared pursuant to Article 34 or otherwise.
- 13. Requests by counsel and action of the convening authority taken thereon (e.g., requests concerning delay, witnesses and depositions).
- 14. Records of former trials.
- 15. Record of trial in the following order:
 - a. Errata sheet, if any.
- b. Index sheet with reverse side containing receipt of accused or defense counsel for copy of record or certificate in lieu of receipt.
- c. Record of proceedings in court, including Article 39(a) sessions, if any.
- d. Authentication sheet, followed by certificate of correction, if any.
- e. Action of convening authority and, if appropriate, action of officer exercising general court-martial jurisdiction.
 - f. Exhibits admitted in evidence.
- g. Exhibits not received in evidence. The page of the record of trial where each exhibit was offered and rejected will be noted on the front of each exhibit.
- h. Appellate exhibits, such as proposed instructions, written offers of proof or preliminary evidence (real or documentary), and briefs of counsel submitted at trial.